

# Maclean's

Canada's Weekly Newsmagazine

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**DISEASE:** FOOT AND MOUTH SHUTS DOWN EUROPE'S EXPORTS

**MUSIC:** THE HIP'S GORD DOWNIE GOES SOLO

## RINK RAGE

How parents are spoiling kids' sports





From the

# Managing Editor



## Picking up the pieces in the Balkans

Just as the disintegration of the former Yugoslavia fractured the political map of Europe, it has dramatically changed life for Canadian diplomats in the region. Where once there was one Yugoslavia, there are now five nations and three tripplod-down Canadian embassies. The three Canadian ambassadors met recently with *Maclean's* editors in Toronto to talk about their work in the postwar Balkans—work that is largely centered on the reconstruction of states and their economies, distribution of aid, repatriation of refugees and reunification of shattered families.

The dean of the three ambassadors is Drama Stedje, who represents Canada in Croatia. Formerly ambassador to Yugoslavia, itself, Stedje is in Zagreb with one other Canadian officer and six local staff. Sam Hanson, ambassador to Bosnia-Herzegovina, isn't much better off: he has two other Canadians plus seven local employees in Sarajevo—where about 200 Americans work at the U.S. Embassy. Meanwhile, in Belgrade, capital of what is left of pre-Slobodan Milosevic Yugoslavia—Serbia and Montenegro—Canada's ambassador, Angela Bogdan, is happily working with the government of



Hanson (left), Stedje, Bogdan: providers of refugees and shattered families

Vojislav Kostunica, winner of last September's election.

"We have an excellent relationship with the new government, having worked so closely with them when they were in opposition," she says. "They are extremely brave and able groups of men and women. They'll need a lot of sustained support from the international community, I think, including urging them to do what needs to be done—even though our decisions would be very challenging for them, like the extradition of Milosevic to [the UN War Crimes Tribunal in] The Hague."

Bogdan says the extradition of the ex-president is a matter of intense debate in Belgrade. Some leaders, including those of Serbia, were keen to see The Hague sooner rather than later, they fear putting him on trial in Yugoslavia would divide the country. But others worry that handing him over to The Hague would make him a martyr at home. For the moment, Milosevic is under house arrest—just two doors away from Bogdan's residence. "There are more guns pointing in than out," she says.

One of Bogdan's first tasks when relations were re-established following the Kosovo war was to repair the embassy staff, vandalized by the same crowd of Milosevic supporters who looted the U.S. Embassy down the road. "It was mainly a lot of broken glass," she says. "They trashed our computers. Pockets of human waste were left in the area, which is supposed to mean something."

*Jeffrey Klein*

jeffk@maclean.ca or to comment on From the Managing Editor

## Newsroom Notes

### Covering the story

One of the most important tasks facing the staff each week is the creation of the cover image. For seven days, it will be the face of *Maclean's* on newsstands, in living rooms and on bedside tables across the land. This week, Acting Art Director Geoffe Sabatini took her cue from a magazine styled half a century ago. Slice-of-life illustration by Franklin Arkus, Ben Woods, William Winter and other bel-



Beckwith, Sabatini: artists of a style from the past

lue artists frequently graced *Maclean's* covers in the '40s and '50s. Each had a unique approach, but they were all generally in the style of the best-known painter of the form, U.S. illustrator Norman Rockwell.

Sabatini called on a Toronto illustrator whose work he admired on his Web site. At a hippy, Montreal-born, Ottawa-raised Greg Beckwith, 33, comes Rockwell among his influences. "I'm trying," says Beckwith, "to create an atmosphere that you can't necessarily get in photographs." His boy, serene and angry together set the mood for the cover package starting on page 26.



## Leaning to the left

**The problem** with Naomi Klein is that while she has no problem fighting globalisation, she doesn't really explain what she's fighting for ("Naomi and the new left," *Cover*, March 12). *Corporations* aren't going to be scared off by protesters. What will scare them is people not buying their products. As a former "mail rat," Klein should realise that consumer culture is the problem. Despite her dismissal of the tendency to "boil everything down to a shopping, taste," companies supply goods because our materialistic society constantly demands more. Klein should put her money where her mouth is and flog that Starbucks coffee.

Sharon Gillies, Burlington, Ont.

**Has Naomi Klein** ever considered the fact that ownership employing children—a decriable condition—have, however, in many instances, enabled their families to avoid starvation? Is she so busy feverishly naming faults (commitment to consumer) to even take the time to evaluate the politics and economics of such societies? Or does she block out the fact that these societies are often left-wing, modern-day feudal economies? *Mislead* article on Klein suggests that this new left is akin to

mother's milk, but the Reform/Alliance ideas and philosophies, which were every bit as activist, were dropped into the nearest wastebasket. Over the centuries, democratic capitalism has been the only ideology to have crossed the ideas and conditions that raised human beings to unprecedented heights of freedom and superior living standards. Klein is a hypocrite, but what is even more frightening, an extremely articulate one.

M. A. Street, Edmonton

**I was struck** by how clearly misleading the term "anti-globalisation" seems when applied to this new movement, which is essentially a global movement dealing with global issues. Maybe it should simply be referred to as "the movement," with the membership determined by the shared values and attitudes of people who do not want to live in a society where cultural identities are homogenised into a single bland global monoculture and who reject the trends towards unlimited consumerism and the alarming escalation of power wielded by transnational corporations.

Karel Posters, South Island, B.C.

**I sometimes** think that the far right keeps democracy honest and the far left keeps a secret. Perhaps that is so. But as the tools of modern society—all products of large global corporations—

## Power of reviews

**Last year**, I read your review of *The Sensation Machine* series (and other works) by fantasy writer Gary Gervid Key ("The man who talked to an alternate Byzantium," *Books*, April 3). Your focus was on his newly released second book of the series, *Lord of Empires*. In any event, a trip to the library the following week found my name on a reserve list for it—I was No. 137. In the meantime, I got the first book out, *Sailing in Somewhere*, and had to wait nearly two months for the second one. They were incredibly wonderful. Most recently, in the Feb. 19 issue, you reviewed David Studdy's *Elushek: The Struggle for the Throne* ("Little queen lion," *Books*). Off to the library—I am I surprised that I am on the reserve list, am I not? No. 121? *Consensus?* Or do you make the wonderful effort you are having on book readers?

Gail Bennett, Toronto

**somehow** not the products of the same oppressed masses? Is there some subtle shuffling of philosophical pragmatism that escapes me? Or, again, the far left demonstrates its facility for sucking at the powdered test while vociferously decrying the won't consensus?

Bonnie Ann Blainey, Burnaby, B.C.

**You didn't** label Klein the Pro-Revolutionary, but instead the subject matter so as to imply it. I was hoping for more.

John Craig, Edmonton

**Let's just** set some facts out so that your readers can come to some sort of understanding about how our planet

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# Overture

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Edited by Anthony Wilson-Smith  
with Shonda Deal

## OVER AND UNDER ACHIEVERS

### Victory, thy name is Ralph

*Rush to shareholders: "Where's your \$135 million?"  
The EK already had Football League? Trading words with  
Bernard Landry? And dot-com madness?*

- ◆ **John Raths:** For \$135 million—what he made on stock options last year—Norfolk CEO should be cornering the stock market, not asking it.
- ◆ **Ralph Klein:** Never mind movie of the same name—he wrote the book on *How the West Was Won*.
- ◆ **The Nasdaq:** Tech stocks continue yearling free fall, with only brief intermissions. Will investors recall the late '90s as the era of the dot-com?
- ◆ **The NDP:** Rock-bottom ratings put the lie to old R.T. Brennan line—that you can go broke underestimating the taste of the American public.
- ◆ **Bubble-burst deluge:** Those noddling 1960s staples of sports memorabilia are back—and hot. You can stick one in the back of your car—or send it off to Parliament to fill in for your local Liberal MP.
- ◆ **Bernard Landry:** "Kiss, kiss!" "What then?" I hear @945/4-7765/50 Canada: "Oh, hello Mr. Landry."



Bernard Landry's not-so-subtle strategy

### Score one for Paul

Pickings are slim these days for political cartoonists hungering for a money piece of Liberal leadership news to draw over. Last year's endlessly re-moulding, clashes between the Jean Chrétien and Paul Martin camps are a nostalgic memory. Martinists have learned that open signs of impatience with the PM's rounded square is the rap just seems to keep him there longer. But it would be a mistake to think the party's leadership dogfighting has ended; the clashing has merely slipped below the national media radar. In the latest signi-

cant skirmish, Martin forces squared off with Allan Rock supporters at the annual meeting of the federal Liberal party's Manitoba branch earlier this month. The made: Jean Martin captured both the executive and youth wings. Bad outcome for Rock, right? Maybe not. At least the health minister's backfire was a failure. The third undisclosed Grit leadership hopeful, Brian Tobin, had no organization in sight at all. And Tobin, who had been slated to attend the Winnipeg gathering, was a no-show. Handicapped side note: Martin, vs. Rock, plus Tobin, scratch.

John Golden



Sally (left) and Emma know movies

### Sweet as Chocolat

Once may lose director **Lasse Hallström** (*The Cider House Rules* and *Chocolat*), but Hallström, in turn, seems to hold a special place in his heart for two young girls from Nova Scotia: **Sarah Emma** and **Sally Taylor-Libwood**, 13 and 11, are screen stars with a bright future. Last fall, Sally was given an unconventional role in Hallström's Oscar-nominated film *Chocolat*. The filmmakers weren't happy with the voice of the young actress who played Anouk, the daughter of Juliette Binoche's character—so Sally dubbed the part using a French accent. "It was hard," says Sally, who originally auditioned for the role of Anouk, which went to French screen siren **Virginie Ledieu**, "but I got help from my mom, and the director would tell me when I needed more expression."

Six months later, Emma was in Halifax taking care from Hallström in *The Shipping News*. In the director's adaptation of **Anne Priddy's** Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, which is set in Newfoundland, Emma plays young Agnes—Jodi Dendy plays Agnes as an adult. The film also stars **Kevin Spacey** and **Cate Blanchett**. "It made me feel very comfortable on the set," Emma says of Hallström. Although the movie's scenes are scary—"they're now shooting a Canadian TV series in Montreal—the girls lead a normal life. Both attend public school. Sally plays soccer and Emma does gymnastics. And they say they aren't ready to give up their childhood or their dreams. "Everybody asks if I want to be a movie star," says Sally. "Sometimes, I think that sounds good, but what I really want to be is a mountain climber. I really like adventure."

### Overbites

"Nelly goes a long way far making up for the more genocide inflicted on us by her Canadian companion Five Star."

—The *Daily Express* in the U.K. bestows a rare on Nelly: only **Nelly Furtado's** debut album

"Nelly Furtado may be the girl to kick-start the Canadian music hall of fame glory days!"  
—*Mean magazine's* Lisa Iwanow

"What Canada has known since September, the rest of the world is about to find out."  
—The U.K.'s *Daily Mail* makes Patrick's CD its story of the week



Patrick Wolf

"People can come by and say her ears or nose are too big or small (The wall would) honour and forever stand proudly as a symbol of love and devotion from fans of Shania Twain."

—**Artist John Kargicki** of Toronto's lower town of Toronto, Ont., announces plans to build a Wall of Fame in honour of the country singer

### Less play, more grey

If Statistics Canada's estimates hold true, the most signs of a group working further recognition of its place in society will be "grey pants" by 2051. The agency reports, Canada will have nearly 37 million seniors, and more than a quarter of them will be aged 65 or over—double the present ratio of senior citizens. StatsCan attributes the demographic shift to a combination of low birth rates, baby boomers reaching retirement age and people living longer.



### Our wartime history relived—online

**Susanna Davies** is reviving history—through the words of those who lived it. The 43-year-old history professor at Malaspina University-College in Nanaimo, B.C., is also project director of The Canadian Letters and Images Project ([www.mla.ca/cla/](http://www.mla.ca/cla/)), a Web site committed to depicting the personal side of war. Davies does this by publishing letters, diaries and photographs written by Canadians during wartime. "The letters show that the impact of war goes far beyond the battlefield," he says. "It goes back to the home front, back to the families."



Susanna Davies

Davies launched the project last September by sending letters to Canadian historical groups, in search of unpublished firsthand accounts from the two world wars. He has since received more than 2,500 letters and hundreds of photographs, including a collection of 50 pictures taken by a participant in D-Day, and a diary from a member of the Western

Expeditionary Force of 1918-1919. But so far, only about a fifth of the materials have been posted since Davies is running the site alone on a small budget with funding from Malaspina.

All collections are picked up and scanned by courier at no cost to the owner. But as his mailbox continues to fill on a daily basis, Davies knows he can't expect his small school to remain committed to the project forever. About \$7,000 is needed to fund an upgrade, which would include a redesign of the Web site, the addition of a user-friendly search engine and the hiring of a student to transcribe letters. Davies has approached numerous crown government organizations for funding, including Heritage Canada and Veterans Affairs, with no success. "I'm surprised, baffled and disappointed," Davies says. "These materials tell the national story."

With love—letters to the Canadian home front

John Irvine

### What did you learn in école today?

Just in case Quebecers haven't heard enough about sovereignty in recent years, now in die-hard supporters have a chance to go to a special school to brush up on the subject. The Parti Québécois recently allocated \$50,000 to create a sovereignty training school, to be known as the École Nationale de Formation. Instruction at the school, which will hold province-wide workshops, aims to teach laypeople new ways of winning over skeptical voters, as well as offer advice on how to debate the topic. PQ vice-president **Marie Maloney** acknowledges that Plaquemont need to re-examine the

way they try to appeal to voters. "If I argue with all sorts of arguments and say 'French, why sovereignty is good for you,' I won't reach them," Maloney told *Maclean's*. "It's not a question of adding arguments." Sovereignists, she says, need to work on how they approach people and listen better to what they say. Maloney says members won't go down to door. "The Québécois' Winemakers say, 'Read the Bible and everything is there,'" adds Maloney. With that in mind, it's back to school—and no holding the teacher out of class.

Shonda Deal



## Greasy-spoon politics

In the early months following his election as a rookie MP in 1993, Allan Rock left his family behind in Toronto when he went off to Ottawa. It didn't improve his disposition—he was noticeably less cheerful without them—but it did cement his relationship with Paul Martin. Because Rock's menagerie was his own and his wife and kids moved up to join him, he could indulge his fondness for greasy-spoon diners as often as he wanted. That made him a natural dinner companion for Canada's finance minister—a notorious junk-food junkie who is incapable of passing a hotdog stand without experiencing immediate, incoherent hunger pangs. Rock and Martin also had—and have—much more in common: both, as senior politicians, gave up jobs that paid much more; both believe deeply in the power of government to do good; and both, to the sometimes despair of others, are hopeless policy wonks who wish occasions like complex issue briefings from civil service advisers. Rock and Martin became the sort of friends whose fondness showed up in the way they needed each other. “That’s a b. Rock,” Martin once said. “Not only do he never gain weight from these dinners”—this with a pair of his own stomachs—“but he has way more hair than I do”—this with a rub of the bald patch at the crown of his head.

That was then. These days, if you believe official Ottawa, Rock and Martin are on a collision course that will only end—badly, at that—when one or the other eventually succeeds Jean Chrétien as leader of the Liberal party and prime minister. Every public appearance, speech and piece of legislation they make is parsed by journalists and others with an eye as to how it will affect their leadership hopes. Any time one disagrees with the other in cabinet meetings—an inevitable occurrence between a finance minister, who controls the money, and a health minister, who invariably wants more money—the exchange is perceived as hard evidence of a growing schism between the two front-runners. Those in the way the two men interact with Brian Tobin and John Manley—the other Libs to be taken seriously in a leadership race—and it seems a wonder that anything gets done around all the scheming, backbiting and outbidding.

Except, of course, that things are never as straightforward as that. In fact, the way the undeclared leadership war has played out says a lot about the nature of politics overall—dispute with as many layers, plots, counterplots and subplots as a *Le Carré* novel. Sure, both men are running hard for the same prize—the efforts of Martin supporters have been well publicized for his liking, while Rock has occasionally boasted privately that he has at least one organizer on the ground in every one of the country's 301 ridings. But anyone looking for specific evi-

dence of ill will, or of the two men truly talking each other as private, won't find much. Relations are still very civilised, and not only between the two directly: their senior staff advisers—Scott Reid with Martin, and Cyrus Reporter with Rock—are also good pals. You have to move much lower down the pecking order before you find real discord. When Brian Tobin left Ottawa to become premier of Newfoundland in 1996, he essentially told positive leadership supporters that they were free to ally themselves with others. Since Tobin is a favourite of Chrétien—and it's absolutely true that the PM and Martin get along like two cats in a sack—a lot of those people went over to Rock, as much as anything to black Martin. Those people, Martin supporters say, are much more likely than traditional Rock supporters to play hardball on issues.

At the same time, Tobin's various pronouncements and forays across the country since his return to federal politics have led to a lot of gnawing at high levels within the party, as well as reserved discussion of his own leadership hopes. But the truth is that of all the wannabe leaders, his arguably the guy who has worked hardest to play by the rules by not attempting, so far, to rebuild his old organization, and he's also certainly the one who had done the least to annoy the PM. The worst that can be said about Tobin is that he's guilty of be-

lieving himself (although, to some Libs, that's enough of an offence). He's a microphone hog by instinct and an undeniably eloquent one, and his habit of habitually leading to selected reporter information that affects well on him, as badly on enemies, has won him important friends in the Ottawa press gallery. Tobin never denies he wants to be leader someday, but he's a fervent loyalist to the existing boss who would never do anything to undermine him. No wonder the PM loves the guy.

In the end, it's possible to find a few sorry for them all—even though no one forced Martin, Rock & Co. as the tags they're at. Imagine what it would feel like if every day that you went to the office, scores of people were scrutinizing everything you said, noting whom you talked with at the water cooler, and wringing their hands with delight every time you made a joke about a co-worker. Imagine that all those details were made public the next day, reported with varying inaccuracies, and all that information was duly funnelled to your boss—with heavy emphasis on the fact your efforts were aimed at taking his or her job. That's the way life really is in Ottawa, if you're smart, ambitious and well connected enough to rise above the zen of the head, and to dream about something more. Maybe the next time Rock and Martin grab a burger, they should bring Tobin along—and that fellow Manley, too.

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## PASSAGES

Wann Randy Farbey, 41, will have to put off retirement now that his Alberta curling team earned a berth in the world championships later this month.

as well as a spot in the Olympic trials this December. Farbey, who won his third Canadian title, was joined by Scott Pfeiffer, 23, Marcel Roques, 23, and Dave Nedeikin, 27. On the women's side, Colleen Jones's Halifax team will represent Canada at the worlds in Luxembourg, Switzerland.

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**Died:** For four decades, Holocaust survivor Leopold Page told every writer who visited his Beverly Hills, Calif.-area leather-goods shop the story of his service. Oskar Schindler Page, an officer in the Polish army, was imprisoned in Plaszow. He was later sold to Schindler and became one of 1,200 Jews whom the German businessman saved during the Second World War. In 1982, Thomas Kennedy, a Page clone, published *Schindler's List*. Page, 87, died in Los Angeles.

**Acquitted:** After a seven-week trial with 59 witnesses, a jury declared music and fashion impresario Sean (Puffy) Combs, 31, not guilty of weapons and bribery charges in connection with a shooting at a New York City nightclub in 1999. His bodyguard, Anthony Jones, 34, was acquitted on the same charges, but a Combs protégé, rapper Jamar (Shyne) Brown, 21, was found guilty on two counts of assault.

**Acquitted:** Almost a year after purchasing a police officer during a scuffle outside a Windsor bar, 25-year-old Aaron Donaghy, son of B.C. Premier Ujjal Donaghy, has been found not guilty of causing a disturbance and assaulting a police officer. Donaghy, who was celebrating his graduation from the University of Windsor law school when the incident took place, later testified he did not realize the man was a police officer.

**Retired:** Canada's oldest serving soldier Herbert Ross, 94, joined the Canadian Corps of Signals in 1932 at age 15. He rose to lieutenant-colonel before retiring from the regular force in 1946. In 1980, he was named honorary lieutenant-colonel of the 705 (Communications) Squadron. Ross, a financial and estate planning advisor, was declared one of Canada's top entrepreneurs of the 1990s by *Profit* magazine.

**Died:** For three decades, Robert Ludlum, 73, captivated millions of readers with stories of espionage and corruption. His first book, *The Scarleteen*, was published in 1971, when he was 40, and 20 more page-turners followed. Those more books will be published posthumously. Ludlum, 73, died of a heart attack in his home state of Florida.



Barbara Amiel

## Aging in the fast lane

Once upon a time, my letters (e-mails now) were full of gossip about writing projects and books. Now they are largely laudations of health problems and medical services. This is called growing old. When I remarked on this to a visiting friend from North America, she told me that aging meant I could now look forward to more "quality time" with my husband.

There are different ways of aging though. London is home to the beloved William Douglas, 87, former editor of *The Daily Telegraph*, cabinet minister under Harold Macmillan and currently a *Telegraph* weekly columnist. Douglas, an old friend of Evelyn Waugh's (and role model for the journalist in *Swing*), teamed through Angola with Princess Diana in 1997 on his fierce campaign against land mines. He regularly turns up at the office with a squeaked piece of luggage and happy look—like another squawker in some godforsaken place. A few weeks ago, he had a stroke in India and, after being helicoptered to hospital, delayed his recovery while dictating his column by telephone and apologizing for not getting it in electronically.

Three other acquaintances of various degrees of familiarity have had major birthdays recently, which sparked further thoughts on aging. Rupert Murdoch, 76, is the greatest media visionary of our age. His own age, however, is simply a marker of retirement in work and something to be ignored. He lives and breathes his job, and apart from that it is his family circle—now extended to his new wife, but as tight and loyal as ever—that occupies all his time.

Giovanni Agnelli, now 80, is the grandson of the founder of the Italian car giant Fiat and still the brain behind the company. In his early years, he sponsored the achingly hand-some Italian playboy, and for the last 40 years has epitomized the achingly handsome worldly businessman. He may want to put his feet up (well, shod, on casual days, in the J. P. To's loungers with all those little black rubber peepers on the sole that To's invested in the 1970s specifically for him so he could get a better grip on the bar he loved), but death has nibbled him of his hair. He must soldier on until an Agnelli grandchild is ready.

When asked once on his yacht how it was that when Fiat had a profit it went to its shareholders and when it was in loss the Italian government seemed to pick up the tab, Agnelli smiled into the middle distance and then, without turning his face, remarked, "You must remember that we are the nation of Machiavelli." With his impeccable manners and individual style—his watch placed over his shirt cuff, his violet ear at hand—he towers the Rivers, New York, Paris, Rome, Turin and St.

Monte on his yacht and plane, and remains at 80 what he must have been at 30, the drop-dead-once man on earth.

Drue Hume, just turned 70-plus, is the widow of H. J. Hume II, the grandson of the founder of your ketchup. Mrs. Hume calls herself "the only fat woman in New York." She is not fat but merrier is the one of New York's social X-rays. Drue loves and breathes literature and ideas, usually working all the books competing for the many praiseworthy endings. In Scotland, she funds a retreat for writers. In Lake Como, a villa for American literature. "Come to lunch tomorrow," she mailed me one Saturday in New York. Lunch was with Tom Wolfe and Gore Vidal.

Murdoch, Agnelli and Hume have, like most in their age, endured substantial health obstacles and personal losses. Their

lives continue to consume them. None of them would ever use the phrase "quality time." Their lives are their quality time. They perceive what Robert from across when he pointed out the need to merge vacation and avocation, the way two eyes produce a single sight.

This mingling of work and leisure is not simply available to the wealthy, successful or world famous. You can merge time and "quality time" under the most ordinary circumstances as business, art,

ambulance driven or corporate salaried. All it takes is the ability to find an underlining or a series of undertakings in life that are more than just a job, as one doesn't become that disheartened of customs, sustained up by Canadian author Richard Wright in his novel *The Wrecked Man*, the author who only comes alive at 5 p.m. on a Friday and dies again each Monday at 9 a.m.

Everybody ages differently; not only in their physical and mental condition but in their attitude to aging. If "quality time" is something you have to seek because it is not part and parcel of your whole being, you have put your finger on the fundamental shortcoming of your life. Whenever I hear parents or spouses talk about sharing more "quality time" with their kids or one another, I know that they haven't clue what quality time is.

This is all of interest to writers like me, but as the demographics change it will become something of a societal preoccupation. What is needed, perhaps, is less worry about "leisure time" and more concentration on weekday time together with an expanding from our vocabulary of the phrase "quality time." Or we will turn into a society in which the anguish of *The Wrecked Man* becomes the modern modernist's "Most of the time," Wright's *ambulance* says, "I am quietly giving my worth and just holding on."

# Ralph Rolls On

By Brian Bergman in Calgary

When Alberta Premier Ralph Klein called a provincial election last month, Calgary Sun columnist Rick Bell responded with a yawn. "The response is so slight," wrote Bell, "it's like covering a campaign in North Korea." Just so. Barely 20 minutes after the polls closed on election night last week, modestly declared that Klein, 58, had won his third straight majority government, extending the winning streak of the provincial Progressive Conservative party to nine consecutive elections over a span of 30 years. Most impressive of all was the scale of Klein's victory: the Tories captured 74 seats, 11 more than in 1997. This reduced the Liberals to a paltry seven seats from 15, while the NDP hung onto the two it had going into the election. After more than a decade during which the provincial legislature, by Alberta standards, included a healthy opposition presence, one-party rule was once again the order of the day. "Welcome," as the premier himself put it, "to Ralph's world."

Klein's victory was, of course, very much in the Alberta mould. In the province's 95-year history, there have been only four changes of government. And in the case of the long-running Social Credit regime (1935-1971) and the Conservatives, the governing party has usually enjoyed lopsided majorities. "Alberta is the only jurisdiction in Canada where there isn't a strong tradition of opposition," says University of Calgary political scientist David Tarras. "In most places, people feel, yes, there should be someone to ask tough questions of the government; there should be graces debated. It's a very different way of doing politics."

The Klein stampede ran over everything in its way, including Alberta Liberal Leader Nancy MacBride, who last year lost at the bidding of Edmonton's McChung and, three days later, announced she was leaving provincial politics. On the same day, Klein rushed to put as old stamp-on his own government, reappointing all 16 cabinet ministers who ran for re-election, while boosting the overall size of his cabinet to 24 from 20.

As Klein fashioned a cabinet, political observers puzzled over why many Albertans appear content to live in a virtual one-party state. Some suggested it is simply a case of good, honest government replacing just reward. Others pointed to Alberta's

firmly strained relations with Ottawa, most notably over Pierre Trudeau's 1980 National Energy Program. "There's a strong populist streak here," says University of Alberta political scientist Linda Trimble, "and one of the key elements of populism is banding together to fight an external enemy. In Alberta, that enemy is Liberal governments in Ottawa."

For an Alberta premier, Klein did remarkably little Ottawa-bashing during the recent election campaign. True, he took every opportunity to try to link the provincial Liberal party to what he termed "their Liberal cousins" in Ottawa. And yes, the right-wing Calgary-based National Citizens' Coalition took out ads urging voters to reject the Alberta Liberals as a way of "sending a message" to Jean Chrétien's government. But both appeals seemed a bit overwrought given that MacBride was formerly a Tory cabinet minister who lost that party's leadership contest to Klein in 1992. Far from invoking Chrétien Liberals, one of MacBride's most persuasive campaign ads likened back to her days working for a Toryism, former premier Peter Lougheed.

All the same, there is a lingering unease among many Albertans about the province's prosperity—including a record \$7-billion budget surplus this fiscal year—is again making it a target of envy in the rest of the country. "Alberta is becoming very wealthy," notes Tarras, "and there's a sense of having to defend that wealth." Klein, he adds, has already established his credentials as a strong Alberta advocate: "Ralph Klein is not a guy you want to push around. If you tread on his turf, he will fight back."

Klein's sweeping victory was all the more impressive because it followed perhaps his toughest year in politics. Last year, he faced a series of angry public protests over Bill 11, legislation enabling private medical clinics to perform surgeries requiring overnight stays. Opinion polls showed a majority of Albertans opposed to what many saw as a nod to wealthy two-out medicals. Klein pushed the bill through the legislature anyway. More recently, the premier came under intense fire over his government's deregulation of the utility industry as of Jan. 1. Critics blamed the move for saddling consumers with skyrocketing electricity rates. Klein responded with

\$2.3-billion worth of short-term electricity rebates as well as a further \$1.8 billion to help offset home-heating costs over the winter months due to high natural gas prices.

MacBride made the bungled deregulation effort the centerpiece of her election campaign. But it failed to stick to the premier. Klein retained voters that, after asserting power in 1992, he made the tough spending cuts needed to slay a \$2.6-billion deficit he inherited from former Tory premier Don Getty. Now, Alberta is just two years away from being the first province to eliminate its accumulated debt.

The premier and wife Colleen on election night, confident

So if there were happy faces ahead on the electricity front, Klein argued, he was the person to navigate them.

The message took, even in such previously hostile territory as Edmonton, which had voted solidly Liberal in the last two provincial elections. This time, the Tories captured 11 of the seats in the capital city, leaving the other eight to the Liberals and NDP.

But even as Klein cruised into his third term, political observers were of possible potholes ahead. One, for instance, says Trimble, will appear if, as expected, electricity rates remain high after the rebates end later this year. "Even with these huge subsidies," she says, "they can't afford to spend \$4 billion a year on rebates, especially when people are still clamouring about downtown sites and hospital waiting lists." Besides, adds Trimble, "ideologically, please avoid what this government is about. The free market is supposed to be next to God." Tarras points to another potential enemy-bait: "When you have so much power, the danger is you think you don't have to answer to anyone," he says. "The worst thing is if he's seen as acting like King Ralph."

Such problems would be at odds with the common area image Klein so carefully cultivates. The son of a professional wrestler, he grew up on the working-class Calgary neighbourhood of Inglewood Park and is Canada's best-known high school dropout (although media reports often comically neglect to mention that he went back to school and became a business college principal). While later working as a television reporter, Klein decided in 1980, as a lark, to run for mayor of Calgary. To his own astonishment he won, and went on to oust

biggest victories in two later civic elections. Before jumping to provincial politics, he headed the 1988 Winter Olympic Games, an event longtime Klein sidekick and adviser Rod Love recalls as "the best time we ever had."

The political saga may be far from over. Last week, Klein reaffirmed his desire to be premier when Alberta celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2005, an ambition that would seem to require sitting around for yet another election. And so, for the foreseeable future, Albertans live in Ralph's world—a shimmering boast on his part, but one he has doubtless earned. ■



# The War of 1812, Part II

By John Nicol in Niagara

For a city that relies on a wide range of attractions to lure tourists, Niagara Falls, Ont., has a wonderful record of highlighting its own dramatic history. Promoters have imported recreations of Eliza and Houdini, Egyptian mummies, whales and wax figures of American presidents and Hollywood stars—anything to occupy those not mesmerized by the falls and the natural beauty of its gorge, trails and rapids. Meanwhile, historically significant Canadian sites have been boxed in or obliterated, say heritage resource consultant Jon Joopman. He recently pulled his truck up in front of a factory-outlet mall on Landy's Lane where citizens lost a fight three years ago to preserve an 18th-century house used as a field hospital during the War of 1812. "This is the 1785 Landy family land grant from King George III," he said, pointing to a swath of blacktop embroidered by Nike and Ralph Lauren signs. "From here down through the Battle of Landy's Lane, it's like the Frank Zappa movie—200 Miles!"

But there is hope that Niagara Falls has finally realized the value in its history, especially its War of 1812 heritage. Joopman is involved in two projects that are beginning to unearth the city's connections to the days when natives, Upper Canada militiamen and British soldiers defended the border along the Niagara River. At Landy's Lane, some of the war's bloodiest battle on Canadian soil and now strangled by strip malls and cheap motels, Joopman is restoring an early-19th-century home, Frick's Tavern. Upriver, he also helped prepare for last summer's opening of the Battle of Chippewa attraction, which now includes an observation platform for a close view of the entire battlefield.

Walking tours and historical interpretive panels on a site that was nearly engulfed by urban sprawl.

Joopman is continuing the preservation work of two earlier champions of War of 1812 sites, Ruth Redmond, a local former history teacher, and Asen Gargjman, an ex-revolutionary from upstate New York. Redmond spent her life collecting and sharing the Landy's Lane battle site. Before she died in 1999 at age 96, she donated the site properties to Niagara Falls with a long list of stipulations about preserving them. As a result, city hall is paying one-third of the costs to restore Frick's Tavern, with the Canadian Millen-



Joopman at Frick's Tavern, connections to earlier days

nium Bureau and Friends of Landy's Lane updating the site. In the meantime, Gargjman had done his part to help preserve the Battle of Chippewa site, where, for the first time in its brief history, the United States fielded a professionally trained army. At Chippewa, the victorious U.S. soldiers gained a stronghold that enabled them to draw closer to Landy's Lane, where 20 days later they fought a confused nighttime battle that led to a three-month stalemate. In the mid-1990s, the Chippewa site was scheduled to become a subdivision when Gargjman spearheaded a campaign to protect the land from developers. After local opponents revealed that 200 British and American soldiers were buried there, developer Frank Bonacum sold the property to the Niagara Parks Commission. The commission, a caretaker for the falls area since 1886, unified national defense historian Donald Groves to organize a walking tour of the property.

Groves, who has written a book on the Battle of Chippewa, and other historians have said it was "the birthplace of the modern American army." That makes the site ideal for living American tourists. But, Joopman added, the War of 1812 was also a watershed for the people of Upper Canada, who remained loyal to the Crown rather than join the United States. "We have the same basic language and cultural background as Americans, but the people here decided they wanted to be Canadian." To forget that, he says, is to forget why there is a border. ■

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## 'The death of agriculture'

Hundreds of tractors and other farm vehicles jammed downtown Ottawa as part of a Canada-wide protest to back demands for more federal support for farmers. The federal government unveiled a \$500-million aid package earlier this month, but farmers—batt by low commodity prices and other setbacks—say it is not nearly enough to keep them going. "If they don't help us out," said Marc Potasauk, an eastern Ontario farmer who set up signs on Parliament Hill, "it will be like the death of agriculture."



## Dark days for B.C. New Democrats

When it rains, it pours—especially in British Columbia. Premier Ujal Desai's New Democrats, stuck at 20 per cent or lower in opinion polls for months, had hoped for brighter days when they returned to the legislature. First, the throne speech promised increased funding for health and education. Last week's budget elaborated on the progress and pledged a \$1.1-billion surplus for 2001-2002—news that the NDP hoped would offer voters the necessary ray of sunshine.

Desai, who must call an election by the end of June, is expected to call one in the next few weeks. But when a TV station leaked details of the budget, the Opposition Liberals and it was evidence of the government's incompetence. The Liberals, already on record as promising dramatic tax cuts, also accused Finance Minister Paul Ramsey of manipulating the numbers to fake a surplus. Despite a tradition of asking finance ministers to step down after a budget leak, Liberal finance critic Gary Furel-Collins said he wouldn't bother to press for Ramsey's resignation. "They should all go," he said of the NDP government.

## Industry Canada tees up a review

At the request of federal ethics counselor Howard Wilson, Industry Canada will examine the corporate records of the Grand-Mitre Golf Club in Jean Charest's home riding of St-Maurice. The move came as opposition MPs continued galling the Prime Minister about whether he held a stake in the Sherwinigan, Que., golf course at the time he helped secure nearly \$1 million in federal loans and grants for an adjacent hotel owned by a friend. Charest has repeatedly denied any conflict of interest.

## Docked by a judge

After a sensational trial in which he admitted to being a binge drinker with friends on organized cruises, Montreal boxer Davey Hilson Jr. was found guilty of sexually assaulting two women who were both under the age of 14 at the time. The hard-living older son of the legendary Fighting Hilsons of Montreal, Hilson, 37, is the current World Boxing Council super middleweight champion. He vigorously denied the charges, but judge Rolande Masse, who heard the case on her own, said his testimony was not credible. To be sentenced on April 19, Hilson could face 14 years in prison.

## Responsible parenting

Parents are liable if their teenage children party guests drink too much and drive, the British Columbia Supreme Court ruled. In what is believed to be the first decision in Canada to establish civil liability on the part of a social host, a family in Endicott, B.C., has been ordered to pay part of the \$2.5 million in damages awarded to a teenage boy who was seriously injured in a 1998 car crash. The boy was one of six in a car who had just come from a backyard party.

## The second shift

Add up the chores and the child care, and women outwork men by about two full weeks a year. Statistics Canada says. In its latest survey of paid and unpaid labour, the national number cruncher finds that the so-called wage gap between men and women continues to narrow from earlier studies. But women still perform the largest share of unpaid work around the house. The hardest-working women—between 35 and 44—tall an average of 9.5 hours daily, while young men under 24 and men over 65 work the least.

## What drug plan?

Nearly six million Canadians, roughly 20 per cent of the population, have little or no insurance for prescription drugs, according to a federal study. About half of those without adequate insurance live in Ontario and most are in their late 50s and early 60s, having been shunted out of the workforce.



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Speculations coloring the action at Port Dover arena: police called to protect the nets from angry parents

Screaming, shouting and hitting—abusive parents are spoiling their kids' sports

# RINK RAGE

By James Duncan

When the Delhi Legion peewees travelled down the highway to play the Port Dover Peewees back on Feb. 25, there was a fair bit on the line for both teams. The series winners would advance to the semifinals of the Ontario Minor Hockey Association's AE Peewee playoffs. And local bragging rights were at stake—there is a long-standing rivalry between teams from Delhi, a town of 3,900 that claims to be the heart of Ontario's tobacco belt, and Port Dover, 26 km to the southwest on Lake Erie, which boasts it's the world's largest freshwater fishing port. So about 200 parents and fans crowded into the arena in Port Dover and arranged themselves in the stands according to their community affiliation.

It was typical of peewee games at that level—12- and 13-year-olds a notch above house league—enthusiastic if



## 'Parents' expectations are greater. They expect more, not just from the kids, but from coaches and referees, too'

not always prohibited. Early on, the Pirazzos were most of the battle along the boards, and took the lead in well. The season got progressively rougher. Several Delhi supporters began hollering at the two referees to crack down on what they saw as the Pirazzos' overly aggressive body-checking, and in fact, Port Dover incurred most of the penalties.

That didn't satisfy some Delhi supporters. With five minutes left, when a Delhi player was penalized for hitting from behind, both of Delhi's coaches immediately argued the call and were ejected. That provoked a couple of hooliganed fans, who hurled cans and a plastic water bottle onto the ice. Finally with one minute and 38 seconds to go and Port Dover up 2-0, one particularly loud Delhi fan tossed a broom onto the ice. That was it for the officials. They halted play and, unable to identify exactly who the main offenders were, simply ejected all 200 spectators. The local provincial police detachment sent officers to protect the referees as they left the arena.



Referee charged with leading a hockey volunteer to death

On the ice, the players were stunned by what they heard and saw coming out of the stands. "You don't pay attention to that stuff usually, but a couple of people in the stands were getting real mad at the refs," says Pirazzo defender Colin Ogden, 15. When the broom hit the ice, Ogden says, "we all just kind of looked at each other and shook our heads." The majority of fans did the same. It was, as one of the more composed Delhi parents said afterwards, "embarrassing."

No kidding. It was just a pee-wee hockey game, for crying out loud. It was supposed to be fun, yet it deteriorated into yet another recent example of out-of-control adults naming the

own kids' games. The bad behavior is so common in hockey that it even has its own name—rink rage. In recent months, some B.C. referees boycotted youth games to protest abuse from fans. A coach in Quebec was hospitalized after being attacked between periods by the father of one of his players. In Ontario, a coach was charged with threatening to kill a teenage referee. Last week in Winnipeg, a police constable—already suspended from the force for a previous assault conviction—was arrested and charged with threatening another parent during his nine-year-old son's hockey game. And the worst news is that rink rage isn't confined to the rink. Similarly ill-suspended adults can be found spouting kids' enjoyment of youth soccer, basketball,

baseball and football games, among others.

The offenders are few—the vast majority of parents are supportive of their kids without being diatribeful of coaches, referees or other fans. And extreme behaviour is rare. There are tens of thousands of kids' games played every year in a variety of sports, and referees and sports associations contacted by *Maclean's* estimate that they are fined to exact spectators perhaps one per cent of the time. "Most of us just come out to support our kids," Delhi fan David Edmonds said about the incident in Port Dover. "It's too bad, really, because it's just a couple of people making the rest of us look bad."

While their still-bubbling rage may not always be profane or abusive enough to cause ejection, it poisons the atmosphere and drives volunteer coaches and low-paid referees out of the game. The Canadian Hockey Association says harassment is a major cause of attrition among referees, about 50 per cent of whom quit every season. In soccer, it's just about as bad. Manitoba soccer officials say that two-thirds of new referees are recruited and trained in the province leave by the end of their first year.

Not that there weren't leather-lunged louies in the good old days. But experts say hostile behaviour at youth games is far more pervasive—and sometimes violent—than it was a generation ago. Consider what happened last summer at a children's recreational hockey game in Reading, Mass., north of Boston. One player's father was so abusive to the man supervising a pickup game that the referee staff asked the father to leave the building. But the man, 42-year-old Thomas Juma, came back to confront the volunteer supervisor, 40-year-old Michael Conroy. The hulking Juma, six-foot-one and 275 lb., beat Conroy, a single father of four, into unconsciousness while a crowd of young kids—including two of the victim's sons—watched in horror. Doctors pronounced Conroy dead at the hospital, and Juma was charged with manslaughter. "It is a terrible tragedy," says Fred Engle, president of the Florida-based National Alliance for Youth Sports. "The green which he was happening out there, it didn't surprise me."

One flight home after the National Hockey League All-Star Weekend in Denver last month, a 10-year-old boy was going through his bag of loot. He had, among other things, trading cards, a bunch of autographs and a cool replica all-star jersey. "Have fun?" someone asked. "It was awesome," the boy replied. His dad, sitting next to him, frowned and explained wistfully that, because of the crap, the boy had to miss



his team's Saturday game back home. "Dad, it was against the last-place team," said the son. "It's not like we were going to lose or anything." "I know, I know," the father said. "But you missed a great chance to pad your resume."

Hubb! For the kid, a game into all-star weekend was better than a blank check in Toys "R" Us. But the father saw a lost opportunity to bolster his son's CV and to impress higher-level coaches. Parents' inflated ambitions, experts say, contribute to the unrelenting atmosphere surrounding youth games. "We're out there to put on recreation programs for kids, so they can have their fun," says Omer Zaidman of the Edmonton Minor Hockey Association. "But you get parents who think they've got the next Gernsey."

That isn't the first generation of sports parents with stars in their eyes. But now they have dollar signs, too. Even modestly successful professional athletes can make millions these days, and expansion in all leagues has provided more jobs than ever before. The kids begin to look like real millionaires, when in fact lottery tickets is a better comparison. The odds of making it to the pro ranks are infinitesimally small—the Canadian Hockey

■ Little-league baseball in Calgary: the vast majority of parents are supportive

Association estimates that less than one per cent of hockey-playing kids make it to the NHL.

"I think parents' expectations are greater than they ever have been," says Steve Larnier, a 39-year-old retired NHL all-star who, among other things, is now a volunteer coach of a novice (age 7 to 8) team in Peterborough, Ont. "They expect more not just from their kids, but from coaches and referees, too." Guy Blouin, executive director of Hockey-Québec, which represents about 350 minor hockey associations in the province, just shakes his head. "If parents stopped for a few minutes to think about the chances of their children having a career," says Blouin, "I think they would reduce those expectations by a lot."

For a variety of reasons, modern parents are playing a bigger role than ever in their kids' recreation. "They are way more involved now than they were when I was a kid," says Larnier. "That's good in some ways, but sometimes they take it too far." As if to protect their "investment" in their future star, some adults hound their kids' coaches, demanding more playing time, all while pushing the child to excel. And that, says Jean Côté, a psychology professor at Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., is likely the most counterproductive approach parents can take. There are exceptions, of course—tenacious phenomenal Williams owners and their all-controlling father come to mind. But Côté has studied the furies of elite athletes and says the most successful competitors typically come from homes where parents are supportive without pushing their child too hard, or hollering at referees, or interfering with coaches. Parents who get too involved, Côté says, risk turning the kid off sports altogether. "It is quite common throughout our studies with elite athletes," Côté says, "that at a critical point, their parents let them choose what they wanted to do."

Beyond high expectations, experts say, the main reason for the sideline conflict plaguing recreational sports is society as a whole. If otherwise sensible people can be enraged by traffic or by airline delays, why not by what they see at sporting events? "We are seeing an erosion of civility in society as a whole," says Engle, "and sports just mirror what is happening all around us."

As a bantam (age 13 to 14) AA game in Thierford, Minn., a Qué. last October, a father confronted his son's coach during the intermission after the boy sat out the first period. The man allegedly hit the coach, Peter Morris, in the face and slammed him to the ground. The attacker was ejected from the building and the injured coach took his place behind the bench for the rest of the game. Afterwards, Morris was taken to hospital where he was diagnosed with a dislocated shoulder. Clément Lajoie was charged with assault and menacing charges of death or bodily harm. His bail conditions forbid him from entering an arena or attending his son's hockey games. The case has not yet gone to court.

Such a parent couldn't come without to referees and coaches, yet for years the culture surrounding the game has, if anything, driven them away. Dick Denson, technical advisor to the league for player and referee development at Manitoba Soccer,

## Heckling poisons the atmosphere and drives volunteer coaches and low-paid referees out of the game

says that, for officials, dealing with rowdy adults is an ongoing battle. "Some of these parents get it in their head to win, win, win, and they don't care about the kids," Denton says. "A lot of foul language is used right in front of the kids. For a referee, it is very frightening to be subjected to someone like that, not knowing what they are going to do."

It's not like refs are getting rich. It's a big deal if they receive \$20 each to call a game in minor hockey and they have to supply their own gear, including the striped jerseys. Veterans rely on it as a lot of fun when the kids play well, the game goes smoothly and the fans enjoy themselves. But too often there is harassment and verbal abuse. In Nanaimo, B.C., last month, local referees boycotted a weekend series of minor hockey games to protest the vicious taunting from so-called fans. Some attacks are not directed at the officials. "I've seen parents fighting in the stands, and heard people yelling racial slurs," says Cara Johnson, a longtime minor-hockey official in Minnesota. "One time, I saw two mothers pushing and shoving each other after a game, and there were their kids, just crying, watching and crying. It was just terrible."

Before the start of the 2000-2001 season, the Edmonton Minor Hockey Association introduced something new to its player-registration forms. Parents wanting to enroll their kids had to sign a pledge to behave themselves at games. If they refused to sign, their children were not allowed to play. Simple as that.

Many sports organizations are reluctant to crack down on the hecklers for fear of alienating their members. Youth sports would simply collapse without the help of parents who volunteer as referee-caller, driver, fund-raiser, administrator and coaches. "While peacefully every association administers a serious problem, they inevitably claim their own group of parents is just fine."

Still, zero tolerance is spreading. The fan-play program adopted in Edmonton was pioneered by the Dartmouth Whalers Minor Hockey Association in Dartmouth, N.S., in 1994. It promotes sportsmanship and equal ice time for players, and respect and maturity among spectators. It has resulted in a dramatic decline in verbal harassment of players and officials, leading nearby associations, which were initially skeptical, to adopt the same rules. In Lasik, Que., earlier this season, after police were called to break up a fight in the stands between two parents, Hockey Land introduced a code of ethics for parents, players, coaches, administrators and officials, and announced that next year, parents will be required to sign the good behavior pledge. "We want to reassure people," says Dominique Roy, director of operations at Hockey Land. "Experts say that approach will work over time." One of the



■ Practicing soccer in Calgary: It can be a lot of fun for officials when the game goes smoothly and the fans behave themselves

things we have to do," says Dale England, vice-president of officiating for the Winnipeg Minor Hockey Association, "is to teach parents to respect the game, the coaches, the players and the referees—all the things that go into making this activity happen." English, author of *Why Johnny Hates Sports*, says peaceful education of parents is the only way to restore order on the sidelines. "Why do parents behave the way they do?" English asks. "There are many reasons, but the main one is that no one has ever told them they can't."

That education process has been slow, so youth sport officials hope that the embarrassing sight of incidents this winter might prompt more sports to introduce their own fan-play initiatives. Or perhaps they should just listen to kids like Pat Dover winger Craig Pines, 13, who was out there trying to play a game while adults were screaming opinions and throwing debris and ultimately causing the game to be stopped. "I couldn't believe it was happening," Pines said. "We know it had nothing really to do with us, but it got a little scary. We were winning the game, but we just wanted to get out of there." And that is just wrong.

With *Breakdown* in Montreal, Susan McClelland in Toronto and Cheryl Smart in Port Dover

Do you think instances of "fan play" are on the rise? [www.mhcnline.com](http://www.mhcnline.com)

## BANE OF THE BLEACHERS

By Susan McClelland

It's a Tuesday evening, and a small band of skaters, mostly teenage girls, are practicing their short and long programs in a figure skating club in Toronto. Their parents, some moms and one dad, are huddled together, listening to one mother explain why her child performed poorly in the last competition. All the while, their eyes are pinned on an attractive skater who has been attempting to land a double toe jump for the past 15 minutes. On her final try, the girl falls and slides into a large pool of water not smoothed out by the Zamboni. "Owww," the parents moan in a chorus, as the girl, dripping wet, pulls herself up. As she leaves the ice, one mother busses "She is getting used to that jump if she wants to do well."

If hockey has its nihilists, figure skating has its sneaky moms. These are the stereotypes, at least, and while most figure skating parents are supportive and gracious, there are enough of the contentious kind to dampen the fun. Horror stories abound of figure skating moms who berate, even fire coaches on a whim, who take over the management of a club and push it in a direction that benefits their children only. And then there is the infamous glow, a tactic some parents use to psyche out their kids' competition. "Parents will stare you down and make you feel so uncomfortable that you make a mistake," says a teenage female skater. "They're just jealous because you can beat their kids. But it's still hurt."

Jack Raglin, an expert in sport psychology at Indiana University in Bloomington, says parents of children in individual sports behave differently than their team-sport counterparts. "There is only so much parents can do when their children are on a team," explains Raglin. "They can scream. They can cheer. But in individual sports, where success or failure rests on one person, the parent can get in and manage the athlete from right down to the micro level." Raglin cautions that in judged sports, where a pleasing appearance often brings better scores, some parents zero in on their kids' weight. A female gymnast told Mclelland that parents at her club have put kids in jounks as 10 or 11 on fat diets to add pounds before a competition. "I was told to look like a lady, not like I have a beer gut," says the 104-lb., four-foot-10 teenager.

Why do parents do it? "In every sport there is a tendency for us adults to live vicariously through their children's accomplishments," says Raglin. "Parents live into the vision of their kids being champions. Sometimes the adults have more invested



■ Skaters and skaters: some children and some parents have enormous ambition, but "they never seem to be in the same family"

in the sport than the child." Mary Louise Adams, who teaches cultural studies of sport at Queen's University, adds: "Sporting culture gets a lot of recognition in this society. There is an over-emphasis on winning. With it comes the potential for abuse."

Just look at Reggie Jeyaseelan, father and coach of Canadian tennis star Sanja Jeyaseelan. Reggie, who gave up his job in insurance to manage Sanja's career, admitted to hitting his daughter. "Sure, I beat the hell out of her," Reggie said in 1994. "Otherwise the world'd be where she is today." And Tonya Harding's mother, LaVona, would slap and scream at her daughter when the dad's partners waltz. Now 30, the American skater is still widely suspected of manipulating the 1994 dubbing of Olympic medal Nancy Kerrigan.

But the drama of Olympic gold isn't all that drives over-zealous parents. The accumulated costs of a pair, two Armands Gibby, 16, and her 13-year-old twin, Lisa, are both figure skaters. Their mother, Cindy, estimates that the family spends more than \$20,000 a year on private lessons, costumes, equipment, traveling expenses and club fees. Still, Cindy says if the girls wanted to quit, the world'd stand in their way. But not all parents share that view. "I know kids who have skating," says Lisa. "They throw up before competitions because of the stress their parents put on them. Yet, when they tell their parents they want to quit, they are reminded of how much money has been spent."

Michael Slipchuk, the 1992 Canadian men's figure skating champion who now coaches his Calgary sons the majority of parent-athlete problems. Sometimes, he says, the kids just don't realize how much of a sacrifice has been made for them to pursue again. Overall, says the 34-year-old Slipchuk, "There are some kids who want to be world champions and some parents who want to be world champions. They just never seem to be in the same family."



*Smothered cattle burning in France (left), either dog or action in Taiwan on industry at risk*

renedy St. Lawrence Marlon, the threat appeared to be creeping closer to home. "It's shocking," said George Timmons, owner of the Olympic Cheese Mart, who gets 75 per cent of his produce from Europe and who could see his supplies totally cut off if the epidemic continues to spread. "In the 40 years I've been in this business, this is the first time something like this has happened."

For all the devastation and concern, the outbreak is now easing, it has been spreading with little attention for more than a decade. This particularly virulent strain of foot-and-mouth, known as the Asianic O type, emerged in India in 1990. While not fatal to humans, the virus can kill animals, but much more often leaves them lame and drastically reduces beef and milk production. It quickly reached Saudi Arabia and since 1996 has wiped out cattle herds in Greece, Russia and Japan.

The virus can be transported by virtually anything it touches—clothing, vehicles, other animals—and can even travel on the wind. In an effort to contain the outbreak, British health authorities have slaughtered more than 161,000 pigs, sheep and cows. But with new cases reported across the country last week, British Prime Minister Tony Blair ordered a massive cull that

With much of the world on red alert, there were unfounded reports of cases in Italy. In the United Arab Emirates on the Persian Gulf, authorities found foot-and-mouth disease in eight cows imported from Britain. They calves were also diagnosed in neighbouring Saudi Arabia. In Argentina, the virus showed up in Buenos Aires province and, more seriously, in the nation's cattle ranching heartland where three cases were reported.

The sudden spread forced Canadian officials to step up their battle against the disease. Agriculture Canada, which on Feb. 21 banned the import of all livestock, meat and milk products from Britain, expanded the embargo to all 15 European countries, which could cost the EU as much as \$500 million annually in lost agricultural exports.

Everything from imported live cattle to procured and pork could soon be in short supply in Canada. Inspectors, using sniffer dogs that can detect

meat and other products that could be infected by the virus, are examining all cargo arriving from Europe by air and sea. Passengers arriving by air from Europe must walk across mats containing a liquid disinfectant. "North America is free of the disease," said Claude Lavigne, spokesman for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. "But it is surrounded by countries that have it."

It remains unclear, meanwhile, what impact the foot-and-mouth scare will have on the Canadian dairy and meat

## Canada bans Europe's meat and cheese as an epidemic spreads



could result in the deaths of another 100,000 animals.

While the disease is coming the British agricultural economy \$1.50 billion a day, the personal costs to farmers who have seen their life's work wiped out is incalculable. Not only have their herds been destroyed, farmers who had insured animals have been quarantined in their homes for as long as three weeks. Devastated by the loss and isolation, one committed suicide in Wales.

The foot-and-mouth disease arrived at Britain and its EU partners were already struggling to contain a devastating eruption of mad-cow disease, technically known as BSE, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy. As they dealt with the first signs of the new contagion, British officials feared that dozens of herds of cattle, sheep, goats and pigs in this country may have come into contact with an estimated 200,000 sheep recently imported from Britain carrying the foot-and-mouth virus. Even after slaughtering 50,000 animals as a precautionary measure, British authorities said it would be all but impossible to contain the disease. "There is so much trading of animals in our country that we consider it highly unlikely it will just stop as this one contained case," said Robert Gellie, deputy head of Fraser's federation of veterinarians.

And the frightening prospect of the two diseases affecting herds on this side of the Atlantic spurred some Canadians to make special efforts to avoid contributing to the problem. Take the members of the man's nighty team from E.E. Mallory secondary school in Wingham, Ont., in rolling dairy cattle country 200 km west of Toronto. Returning last week from a tour of England, they joined others on their flight in splashing through the disinfectant suds at the Toronto airport. But then, before heading home, they crossed hotel rooms at Pearson International Airport and showered with disinfectant soap and towels. That is just a hint of the precautions many more will have to take if the virus gets established in Canada.

With John Jones in Toronto and Barry Carter in Paris

## Canada and the World

# DRASTIC MEASURES

By Catherine Roberts and Tom Fennell

Francis Lejeune's worst fears were confirmed when he noticed odd behaviour in one of his cows. "She was chewing strangely, moving her jaws in a bizarre manner," said the 57-year-old dairy farmer, a lifelong inhabitant of the tiny village of La Brosse-Condouin in central France. "I looked at her mouth and saw the blisters I understood at once." The sores he spotted on March 12 were the first confirmed evidence that the dreadful foot-and-mouth disease sweeping Britain had jumped the English Channel to infect animals in continental Europe. For Lejeune, it resulted in the death of the entire herd of 114 Holsteins he and his wife, Thérèse, have been assembling for

30 years. "It took the vets a while right to put my cows down," he said. "Then, the French let the fire fly."

The smoke and flames rising above the carcasses of Lejeune's herd signalled the relentless advance of the foot-and-mouth contagion: once it emerged in Britain three weeks earlier, last week, new cases emerged in Argentina, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and around the globe 90 cautious governments, including Canada, closed their borders to imports of meat and dairy products from the 15-member European Union. The United Nations issued a global warning, saying increased global trade and travel make it almost impossible to stop the spread of the fiercely contagious virus. In Tennessee

# Defending the Faith

Canadian Christians who went to Russia to spread God's word are being harassed and driven underground

By Paul Webster in Moscow

She arrived in Moscow 2½ years ago with a daunting mandate: open a street mission for the Salvation Army to help the nearly 100,000 homeless in the city. Captain Sharon Jones of Carleton Place, Ont., has managed to organize a youth team to distribute hot food outside the city's Leningrad railway station. But the 29-year-old Jones spends most of her time arguing with city officials, who at the urging of the Russian Orthodox Church, refuse to recognize the Salvation Army as a Christian organization and have threatened to shut down its operations in Moscow. "Our legal problems hurt our religious efforts," says Jones. "We are even having trouble finding places we can rent for worship."

Russia was officially atheistic during 75 years of communist rule. Today, under a 1997 law banning rival churches that is now being fully enforced, it appears as if followers of the Russian Orthodox Church will be the only Christians allowed to practice their faith openly. The atmosphere has become so intimidating in Moscow that Jones and her volunteers fear being harassed if they are even caught handing out food to the homeless. The Salvation Army is not alone. Members of the Jehovah's Witnesses, Baptists and Pentecostal churches have all come under pressure, facing many restrictions to hold their meetings at secret locations. And like Christians in past centuries, many converts to the new churches are refusing to give in. "I'm not afraid of oppression," Maria Lohanskaya, a 20-year-old Jeho-



vah's Witness, told *Maclean's*: "Christ and there will be oppression, and that is what we are facing."

Religious intolerance is expected to mount in coming weeks as officials, using the Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations law, force a number of church groups to stop holding public meetings. The law declares Christianity, Buddhism, Judaism and Islam to be the country's official religions. But it leaves it up to local officials to determine if groups such as the Jehovah's Witnesses and Salvation Army are indeed Christian. If deemed not to be, they must register with the government and meet a long list of requirements to win the right to meet, rent property or even hand out leaflets.

Many churches have refused to register, and lawmakers are rampant that next month any religious group not sanctioned by the government will be forced to close. Barry Polby, the Salvation Army's general secretary for Russia, in-

sists the Army will not abandon Moscow. "We believe in the Russian people," he says. "But as long as powerful officials can block their religious rights, we are here to help with that struggle."

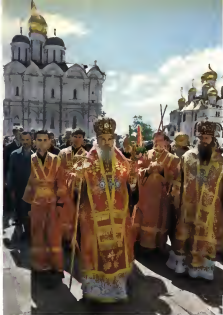
Few people are more determined to fight on than John Burns, the lawyer who heads the Jehovah's Witnesses legal team in Moscow. Burns, a member of the Witnesses' Meadowdale congregation in Mississauga, Ont., has battled for his church with missionary and in courts across Russia and its neighbouring republics. In February, he won a legal victory when a Moscow court tossed out a case that sought to outlaw the Witnesses in Moscow. An activist group called *Save Our Youth* had pushed for action against the Witnesses, claiming the group's recruitment and religious practices were splintering families and leading to suicide. After four years of

struggle, however, the court found no evidence to support the claim and dismissed the action. The case is now under appeal, but it has had little impact on the government, which has ignored similar rulings in the past and refuses to change the law. "There have been a lot of tough fights," says Burns, who carries a Bible with him into court, "but the hostility in Moscow is by far the deepest we've seen."

Some European observers are even more blunt. A delegation for the Council of Europe, an organization of European parliaments that has moni-

tored human rights in Russia since 1996, recently visited the country. British MP David Ashdown says the evidence he saw in Moscow confirmed his suspicion that Orthodox officials are pressuring authorities to crack down. "It's unacceptable," Ashdown says. "No one church can have a veto over the others."

Although the Orthodox church denies any role in the harassment of rival churches in Moscow, Metropolitan Kirill, the senior Orthodox leader in Moscow, has publicly criticized the new religious groups. Alexander



Alexis II in Moscow, Jan. (opposite, center) and volunteer with a homeless man, residence

Dvorkin, a professor of new religious movements and founder of the department of sociology at the Orthodox Theological Institute in Moscow, also believes the rival groups are dangerous. In a recent book printed by Orthodox Patriarch Alexis II, Dvorkin described the Jehovah's Witnesses and other new religious groups, including various Pentecostal churches, Scientology and the Hare Krishna, as totalitarian cults that employ deceit and coercion to attract and hold their followers.

As he fielded phone calls in his office from parents worrying about their children joining cults, Dvorkin told *Maclean's* many of the groups pose an urgent threat to Russian society. The economic hardships and the ideological vacuum left after communism's collapse, he said, created ideal conditions for cults. "Cults came in with a lot of money and made deep inroads among Orthodox believers," he said. "Russian people are not used to making religious choices."

But in their determination to crack down on cults, Russian authorities appear to have turned all the new churches as cults—acknowledging no difference between a Christian organization like the Salvation Army and the Church of Scientology. In defiance, some of the largest of the new Russian churches are holding underground services that regularly attract overflow congregations. A recent meeting of a Baptist church in a hall in a Moscow library was typical. All the seats were taken and the crowd filled every corner of the hall.

The Salvation Army is also helping to attract overflow crowds. As Jones often says and these sandwiches to a 60-year-old and her mother bandied in old clothes outside the Leningrad train station, she hardly seems a threat. "You see terrible suffering," says Jones. "We tell people about the love of God, but mostly we just offer in some human warmth for people who have been trampled and cannot get up without help." But it seems even groups like the Salvation Army will need a hand if they are to overcome opposition from the Orthodox Church. ■



## Washington Andrew Phillips

# What was that he said?

It's easy to make fun of the way George W. Bush mangles the English language. Too easy, in fact. But what he lacks, here are a few scores from the tips of the 43rd President of the United States.

"And I will carry out this apocalyptic message to the world: models won't be open." —Swearing-in ceremony for Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman, March 2.

"Of all areas that understand local control of schools, Iowa is such a state." —Council Bluffs, Iowa, Feb. 28.

"You teach a child to read, and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test." —Townsend, Texas, Feb. 21.

"Redefining the role of the United States from enablers to keep the peace to enablers to keep the peace from peacekeepers is going to be an assignment." —Interview with *The New York Times*, Jan. 31.

OK, so the guy with a losing battle with grammar and syntax. We know that, and so did American voters when they elected him (son of) last November. Jacob Weisberg of the online magazine *Slate* maintains a popular Whitehouse dedicated to "disasters" that is updated almost daily with new violations of the language—including the ones above. But does a master supervisor now that he's oddly unseated in the Oval Office, and a rising star just more unfair piling on by the superlative news media?

Actually, you can't blame the media this time. It turns out, as documented by Kim Silverman in *The New Yorker*, that



Bush: chewing up the President's mangled English

Mostly, of course, Bush's foreshadowing lapses are just amusing. Some may even find them endearing. And let's be honest, after all, and during a lot better than his opponents had predicted. So much better, in fact, that some of Bush's most vocal critics are telling their friends to lay off calling the President of the United States stupid. E.J. Dionne Jr., an influential liberal columnist, wrote last week that continually mocking Bush just lowers expectations for him. If he gets through an appearance without making anyone wince too obviously, he gets a gold star.

The modern also makes it easier for him to pose as just the likeable fellow from Midland, Tex. "How," Dionne wonders, "can a Harvard MBA who inherited large social, political and financial advantages—and who wants to cut taxes for the wealthy Americans—end up looking like a populist? When his opponents cast themselves as elitist grandees looking down their noses at a guy who won 50 million votes, that's how."

But before we write off W.'s mistakes as meaningless, consider the case of U.S. relations with North Korea. You'd think that a President discussing relations with the most isolated, paranoid country in the world, especially one armed to the teeth, would choose his words extra carefully. On March 7, however, Bush emerged from a meeting with South Korea's president, Kim Dae-jung, and announced, "Part of the problem in dealing with North Korea, there's not much transparency. We're not certain as

to whether or not they're keeping all sorts of all accounts."

In fact, Washington has only one agreement with North Korea, dating back to 1994, and U.S. officials acknowledge there is no evidence that the North is violating it. So what exactly was Bush talking about, confused reporters asked his aides. "That's just how the President speaks," one of them replied. North Korea, however, was not amused. It unleashed a new missile at the United States, labelling it a "corrosible" nation, and abruptly cancelling cabinet-level talks with South Korea. Suddenly, and for no apparent reason, the delicate process of coaxing the North out of its shell was off the rails.

So did Bush misread? Did he not bother to read his briefing notes? Did he just not know what he was talking about? Or was it a cunning ploy to once again foil his opponents' neo-consplacency? As he himself has said, "One of the common delusions I have found is that experiments are above that which is expected." Or something.

## Deadly bombing run

A U.S. serviceman at a firing range in Kuwait mistakenly directed the pilot of an F/A-18 fighter to drop three 500-lb bombs over the site where he and other observers were posted. He then tried to call off the plane but failed. The bomber killed five American soldiers and a New Zealand major arrived to witness the carnage.

## Lifting a controversial siege

Israel closed two roads to Ramallah on the West Bank for three days, preventing anyone from leaving the Palestinian city of 200,000. Israeli troops encircled Ramallah, claiming terrorists were plotting to bring a car bomb into Israel. With the city lacking a hospital, some European politicians complained that a blockade was criminal. Israel released, but kept in place six-month-old travel restrictions on Gaza and the West Bank.

## Space tourist sparks dispute

The United States wants to drop Dennis Tito, 60, from becoming the first tourist in space. The California businessman paid the Russian space agency \$31.6 million to be transported to the international space station. But NASA claims Tito's journey would jeopardize the safety of the astronauts aboard the station.

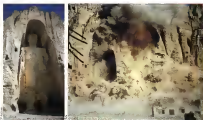
## Politicians caught in Web sting

Indian journalists working for an Internet magazine ruffled the country's political and military establishments, causing a number of politicians to resign, including Defence Minister George Fernandes. The journalists posed as weapons dealers, then released a videotape of top politicians and generals accepting bribes.

## Bush flip-flops on Kyoto

Under growing industry pressure, U.S. President George W. Bush reversed a campaign pledge to ratify emissions of carbon dioxide from U.S. power plants. The move violates the goals of the Kyoto Protocol, a treaty signed in 1997 that encourages major industrialized countries to cut their carbon dioxide emissions in an attempt to curb global warming.

## World Notes



## Muslim zealots reduce Buddhas to rubble

Ignoring international pleas, Afghanistan's Taliban regime destroyed two giant stone Buddhas statues more than 1,500 years old. The Taliban, a militant religious movement that seized power in 1996 and now controls more than 90 per cent of Afghanistan, wants to obliterate all religious statues in the country as part of its bid to prevent idolatry and create a true Muslim state.

## Shopping for bombs in Canada

Alied Resman's elated demeanor turned icy when prosecutors in a Los Angeles courtroom claimed he was a cold-blooded terrorist intent on killing hundreds of people. Resman, 33, an Algerian who immigrated to Canada in 1994, is believed to have been a member of a cell of agents based in Montreal belonging to the Armed Islamic Group. Officials also suspect dozens of having links to Osama bin Laden, a Saudi millionaire who runs a worldwide terrorist organization.

Resman, who is charged with conspiring to commit terrorism, was arrested in Port Angeles, Wash., on Dec. 14, 1999, after arriving by ferry from Victoria. Customs agents found his rental car loaded down with material used to make bombs, including timing devices, detonators and batteries. Prosecutors allege he was planning to blow up buildings in Los Angeles and Seattle. They told the jury that Resman travelled with a fake Canadian passport and picked up bomb-making equipment as he crossed Canada. Resman was also linked to another member of the cell who was arrested on Dec. 30 in New York City.

## The latest front in the Balkan turmoil

Mortar shells exploded in the centre of Kosovo, Macedonia's second-largest city, as government troops battled ethnic-Albanian rebels who were fleeing from neighbouring Kosovo. The fighting began last month when rebels sought to create an independent Albanian state named Jani Macedonia, where Albanians make up a quarter of the country's two million people. In an effort to push out the rebels, NATO peacekeepers sending a coalition of Yugoslav forces to enter a buffer zone along its Kosovo border.

# DUELLING CHAINSAWS

The latest Canada-U.S. lumber war is shaping up to be fierce—and costly

By Andrew Phillips in Washington

He has a voice that sounds like molasses pouring over corn bread, a talent for naming a dove-hoarse phrase and a name you couldn't make up. Rusty Wood, good ol' boy from Georgia and leader of the coalition of American lumber companies set to unleash a trade war with Canada, says it's nothing personal. Hostility has been operating since 1979, and since have seldom been tougher. He sees crisis loaded with cheap Canadian lumber sailing south through his home town of Perry, Ga., as construction projects in Florida—while his business withers away. He's got his nails back from two different ones, then from five days of rest. The way he sees it, the softwood-lumber accord between Canada and the United States let subsidized wood from north of the border squeeze U.S. producers like him out of their own market. The Americans, says Wood, want plain rapid recognition with it: "How dumb were we? Swaps-dirt dumb."

No more, he insists. On April 2, the first business day after the five-year agreement that imposed quotas and duties on Canadian softwood exports expires, the U.S. companies will ask their government to impose duties on Canadian lumber that could amount to hundreds of millions of dollars. That will start what is already being dubbed "Lumber IV" in the annals of world wars and Super Bowls—the latest round in a story seemingly without end. Softwood lumber could be called the Hundred Year War of U.S.-Canada disputes, except that it has gone on even longer. Americans have been complaining about cheap Canadian timber for a century and a half—and U.S. companies have been fighting in Congress and the courts for

19 years to restrict imports from Canada that are now worth \$13 billion a year. To weary veterans of these fights, it is all too familiar. "We've seen this movie before," sighs Carl Greyer, conservative vice president of the Montreal-based Free Trade Lumber Council, representing 80 Canadian producers.

Indeed they have: the arguments have hardly changed for years. Canadian lumber, say the Americans, is subsidized through artificially low "stumpage fees" charged by the four provinces covered by the agreement—British Columbia, Al-

berta, Ontario and Quebec—for cutting timber on Crown lands. Not so, reply the Canadians. Canada and the United States manage their forests differently, making comparisons difficult, and stumpage fees don't include costs like reforestation and road building. The real problem for the Americans, say their neighbors, is that the weak Canadian dollar has made lumber from north of the border much cheaper. Moreover, add the Canadians, we've already beaten the Americans three times on this issue, but they just keep on coming back. Hang on, reply the U.S. forces: the last time around, in 1994, the decision was regrettably by the Canadian majority on an international trade panel. And anyway, they add, changes to U.S. trade law will make it easier for them to win this time.

But while the arguments are well-worn, this round of the

war to do—raises the cost of new homes, they argue.

On the other side, the U.S. companies have recruited other groups to echo their complaints. One Indian from northern Quebec has gone to Washington to argue that their province is virtually going away as forests through low stumpage fees. And environmentalists on both sides of the border have emerged as important new allies of the U.S. producers. Groups like the influential New York City-based Natural Resources Defense Council argue that Canada encourages wasteful environmental practices by failing to charge companies the full cost of logging on Crown lands.

They swing a big bat in Washington, especially among liberal Democrats who otherwise might not care about the fate of Rusty Wood and other struggling U.S. lumbermen. Their support helped Montana Senator Max Baucus, who leads the fight against Canadian softwood on Capitol Hill, get 51 fellow senators to sign a letter attacking Canada's lumber policy as "unlawful." Among them: senators Hillary Clinton and Charles Schumer of New York, Bill Clinton, a trade consultant in Washington who specializes in U.S.-Canada issues, says the environmentalists could play a key role. "They're an emerging force in trade—especially among Democrats."

Even tougher for Canada are the big-picture politics of trade in Washington. For President George W. Bush, the top priority is pushing his agenda for expanded trade in the Western Hemisphere—starting on April 20 in Quebec City at the Summit of the Americas. For that, he needs to be called fair-trade negotiating authority from Congress, something Bill Clinton failed repeatedly to win. It amounts to a vote of confidence in the President to work out trade deals with other countries, and with Congress almost evenly divided, Bush needs Democratic votes. As a result, the White House must build up credits with Democrats like Baucus. Merken puts it like this: "The broader agenda gets held hostage to lumber."

To the Canadian side, that also sounds like old news. In 1986, when the two sides were locked in the second round of their lumber war, the Canadians were told their arguments would have to take a back seat to the bigger picture of negotiating the U.S.-Canada Free Trade Agreement. "We were told we had to sacrifice the lumber industry for free trade in everything else," says Bob Rae, the former Ontario premier who is now representing Canadian lumber producers. "That isn't exactly new." Neither are the contributions in the U.S. position: arguing for free trade in principle, but backing a home-grown industry working protection from foreign competition. "It doesn't make sense," says Rae.

Logical or not, the stage is set for another expensive round of litigation and lobbying. The American producers say they have been pattering intelligence from small Canadian companies disgruntled with the current system, and promise to expose what Rusty Wood calls "your dirty little secret"—says his Canadian producers allegedly exported the softwood agreement. By the end of August, say trade experts, the American producers will likely win preliminary rulings in their favor from U.S. authorities. That would lead to duties of about 15 per cent on Canadian exports—no more than \$1 billion over a year. Then come many more months of wangling through U.S. courts and appeals before international trade panels. If one side wins, the lawyers and consultants certainly will. ■



Georgia's Wood is promoter in dispute Canada's 'dirty little secret'

lumber war promises to be, if anything, even fiercer. Both sides are dug in, well-financed and ready they will not settle for an other compromise deal. Both have enlisted unlikely allies in a bid to sway public opinion—and win support in Congress. Aligned with the Canadian industry is a coalition claiming to represent U.S. consumers, including home builders, residents like the giant Home Depot chain, and even African-American and Hispanic groups that want to see house prices kept low. Reassuring supporters—in the U.S. lumber companies



## Boom and doom

Recession fears rise as the markets crash

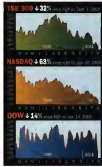
By D'Arcy Jevich

Driving along a west-end Ottawa commercial strip that is home to many of the city's big-name high-tech firms, Suzanne Johnson was struck by the sight of construction cranes—five of them—hoisting over new office and retail projects. For Johnson, sales and marketing director for BlackBerry Hoeson, cranes are a sign of a vibrant economy. Housing starts are another, and the Ottawa-Carleton Home Builders' Association estimates that nearly 6,500 units will be erected in the city and surrounding district in 2001, up almost 12 per cent from last year. Johnson's company built and sold out two housing projects in the past 18 months, and plans to start three in the next six months. "Last year was exceptionally strong," says Johnson. "And we're not slowing down at all."

Full speed ahead may still be the watchword in some parts of the Canadian economy. But after the carnage on major stock exchanges of recent weeks, in which investors have lost trillions of dollars, most analysts have cut their growth projections, and some fear a recession before year end. In fact, some economists argue that the Canadian and U.S. manufacturing sectors are already in recession—one that could speed toward recession elsewhere further down. "The stock market will lower a real appetite for household and

business spending," says Jeffrey Rubin, chief economist with CIBC World Markets. "It's potentially severe enough to tilt the whole economy."

In the past two weeks, several key thresholds have been crossed. The TSX 300 composite index fell below 8,000 for the first time in 15 months. The tech-



Index-futures traders in Chicago  
"Why get in the way of a freight train?"

heavy Nasdaq composite index still below 1,500, completing a stunning drop of 63 per cent from its peak a year ago. And the Dow Jones industrial average, derived from the share prices of 30 blue-chip U.S. companies, dipped under 10,000 for the first time since last October. "We had a bubble in high-tech stocks that made no sense," says Montreal investment adviser Stephen Jaroslawski. "People who didn't participate have watched the bubble burst and now are in no rush to buy. Why get in the way of a freight train?"

Jaroslawski foresees a quick slide into recession, and predicts it will last several years. Others see a slowdown through the first half of the year and a rebound in the second. The Bank of Nova Scotia, one of several organizations to scale back growth projections last week, forecasts that Canada's gross domestic product would increase 2.1 per cent this year, down from 4.7 per cent in 2000.

Scotiabank chief economist Warren Jean attributes the sluggishness partly to the U.S. economy, which should grow only 1.6 per cent this year. Jean sees some bright spots—services, energy and telecommunications manufacturing will grow while new house construction will remain stable at about 150,000 units—

but these will not be enough to offset slippage in forestry, steel and autos. "We've just gone out a period of five-to-six-year annual growth," he says. "We're not going back to that, but we're going to do pretty well."

Most observers say the U.S. Federal Reserve Board and the Bank of Canada will almost certainly cut interest rates further to boost their economies. Many predicted that Fed chairman Alan Greenspan would announce a cut of one-half to three-quarters of a percentage point this week, which would put pressure on Canada's central bank to follow suit. "It will provide a cushion for the decline," says Jevich, "and some relief for when we get going again." But even with that help, the U.S. economy could still spend three to four years to get back to the market. ■



Deirdre McMurdy  
ON INVESTING

## Time to go bargain hunting

If there's one story the average equity investor needs to grasp, it's that stocks always generate the most excitement when overvalued and in hot demand. But when they're cheap, investors tend to steer away from them, consistently failing to capitalize on the pessimistic sentiments of others. That means that for those who can overcome the irrational, emotional noise in a jittery market, a sharp pencil and a hard head can yield exceptional opportunities for bargain hunting.

In the credit environment that now prevails, investors are dithering, even on finding "the bottom" of the market—even though many veterans maintain that's never appeared until at least a year after the fact, as with market crash. Significant rounds of North American interest-rate cuts, and the expectation of more to come in months ahead, have failed to whet a hearty appetite for stocks. The recent contributions to beef up equity holdings from, among others, influential portfolio manager Abby Joseph Cohen of Goldman Sachs, haven't budged that reluctance. Neither has the point that much of the economic data being used to make the cooling temperature of the North American economy is focused on past performance, rather than future prospects. Instead, everyone is concentrating on the billions of dollars in wealth that have been obliterated in the tech-heavy Nasdaq exchange, has lost 63 per cent of its value over the past year.

For a more relevant and contrary view, consider that last week, several leading economists, including a panel of advisers to the cabinet in Ottawa, repeated their call for continued economic growth this year—albeit at a slower average pace of about 2.5 per cent. Activity, even in the battered manufacturing and technology sectors, is forecast to pick up in the second half of this year. That said, the recent string of corporate profit warnings is a legitimate demand for jumping into the market with both feet. Even the financial services sector, which usually flourishes when interest rates decline, has been stalled by mounting concerns about the banks' loan portfolios.

But there are scores of companies—many in the ranks of the neglected Old Economy—that have at least three appealing elements: a dominant market position, strong cash flow and limited debt. Last year, Warren Buffett, the legendary U.S. billionaire investor, earned a 114-per-cent profit on the portfolio of assets held by his company, Berkshire Hathaway, even though they're exclusively in low-growth low-tech sectors. In his annual letter to investors, Buffett wrote, "We have embraced the 21st century by embracing such cutting-edge industries as brick, carpet, insulation and paint. Try to control your excitement."

Investors should feel excited about several events now taking

place. First, the inflated price-to-earnings ratios contrived by high-technology shares are coming down. According to bank managers, it's important to realize that the "burn-off" of such premiums has contributed greatly to the volatility in the stock sector, obscuring some of the attractive new valuations that are gradually creeping to the surface. "Tech stocks aren't cheap but they're inching back into the realm of reality, compared with a year ago," says Bruce Murray, a growth fund manager with McLean Budden of Toronto. "And there's lots of healthy undergrowth."

Another pointer for the sector is a new level of understanding about what sort of technology and applications are commercially viable—and which ones are just marketing hype. That means that most companies that do survive the shakedown, especially at the junior or start-up level, are much more sturdy. "The frenzy of the gold rush is over now," says Kevin Ramo, an industry analyst with IDC Canada. "The wildcaters and the prospectors are giving way to the pros who just want to do business." Beanie Geybowski, a veteran venture capitalist and

**In an emotional market, a sharp pencil and a hard head can yield exceptional buying opportunities**

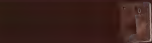
president of HDI Capital of Toronto, adds that "the Internet is now viewed for what it has been all along—a tool. Anything that attracts capital now is a very application-specific, very much geared to changing the way things are done in a fundamental, not a novelty, sense."

Regulators are also doing their part to increase the long-term investors' appeal of high-tech companies. Last week, the Ontario Securities Commission announced there is a need for "a significant improvement in the nature and extent of disclosure" in high-tech financial statements, specifically the manner in which they measure revenue. Ultimately, more transparency in accounting and tougher, uniform guidelines will help people to make better-informed investment decisions.

Another promising development is the stream of improved balance and benefits to equity markets. Geybowski's admission that it has become more challenging to attract new funds to the technology sector is welcome news for openers in parts of the economy that have been languishing. The rising industry for insurance, has been starved of capital for new exploration and development initiatives, because so much was upended off for technology investors.

Last week, as markets were asked again about corporate earnings reviews and anxiety about the Japanese economy, opportunities abounded for bargain hunters. The only thing missing from the equity equator was an assistant willing to stack up

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## The rich get richer

The gap between Canada's poor and wealthy has grown considerably over 15 years. A Statistics Canada study on wealth and debt revealed that the richest 20 per cent of Canadians saw their net worth increase by 39 per cent, or approximately \$110,000, between 1986 and 1999, while the country's impoverished saw no change at all. In fact, while the wealthiest 10 per cent had an average net worth of \$703,500, the poorest 10 per cent owed \$2,100 more than they owned. Single mothers carried the heaviest debt load, and student debt was 6.2 times higher in 1999 than in 1984.

## Sky's the limit

Rovers Air, the fledgling airline partnered with the Toronto-based clothing company, is offering unusually generous extensions of eight per cent with no cap to travel agents as an incentive to book passengers. Air Canada offers five per cent with a cap of \$60 on domestic flights. Operated by Skyview Airlines Inc. of Toronto, Rovers Air begins flying on March 26 between Vancouver, Calgary and Toronto.

## Free-newspaper wars

Two of Toronto's fiercely competing free consumer newspapers, *Metro* and *Globe Today*, are merging under the banner *Metro Today*. Published Metro International SA of Sweden and Toronto's Torstar Corp. said they will jointly distribute 180,000 copies daily in competition with the city's other free daily, *Star Media Corp.'s FTM Toronto*. On March 1, *Metro*, partnered with G.T.C. Transcontinental Group Ltd., began distributing 100,000 copies of a transit-system freebie in Montreal, challenging *Sun* parent Quebecor Inc.'s *Journal de Montreal* tabloid.

## Roth gets \$145 million

The CEO of Brampton, Ont.-based Nortel Networks Corp., John Roth, made more than \$135 million from stock options last year. Roth, CEO since 1997, also received \$1.7 million in salary and an \$8.8-million bonus. Nortel is facing as many as 20 class-action lawsuits due to its plunging stock price in recent months.

## Chapters: she says, he says

Once upon a time, two prominent Canadian book people tore strips off each other in public. The latest signs in a long-running verbal battle began when Heather Roseman, founder of Indigo Books & Music Inc., appeared before the Commons hearings committee to defend her \$121-million hostile takeover of rival Chapters Inc. in partnership with her husband, businessman Gerry Schwartz. Roseman accused the former management—which mostly means ex-CEO

Larry Sevenson—of “doctored” financials” by marking as returned books that are still sitting in warehouses. Roseman said there is \$40 million of superfluous inventory and spoke of widespread “fraud and bad management.” Said Roseman: “Had we not bought the company, it would have been bankrupt within 12 months. There’s no doubt in my mind that we overpaid considerably.”

Sevenson, who lost control of his company in February when the women he had dished with for five years prevailed with a \$17-a-share bid, weighed in the next day. If Roseman and Schwartz thought they’d



“There’s no doubt in my mind that we overpaid considerably”

Heather Roseman

“Then sell it back to me for \$17 and I’ll run it”

Larry Sevenson

made a mistake, he said, “tell it back to me for \$17 and I’ll run it.” As for doctored financials, “this is a very serious charge,” he said. “It’s fairly outrageous.”

Roseman, who has resigned temporarily from her CEO post at Indigo while waiting for approval from the Competition Bureau on the Chapters purchase, intends to close up to 15 stores in a bid to make the merged chain more profitable. Currently, there are 15 Indigo bookstores, 77 Chapters supermarkets and 231 Coles and Smiths/Books outlets in the budding empire. Plus one very disgruntled former king.

## Financial Outlook

Canadians are getting over their fear of leaving online. Internet users spent \$4.3 billion while surfing the Web in 2000, more than double the previous year’s \$1.65 billion. Nearly a quarter of Canada’s adult population has made a purchase online, according to projections in a new Ipsos-Reid survey. And among those who use the Net but haven’t yet made a purchase, 28 per cent expect to take the plunge this year. Increasingly, they will be buying from Canadian sites. The survey found that 43 per cent of the most recent purchases by online buyers

came from domestic sites. Ipsos-Reid said a key reason for the spending ramp, beyond the increasing numbers willing to shop online, was better selection and availability among Canadian e-sellers.

## NET SHOPPING

Must online purchases say they will buy

SALES SERVICES	%
BOOKS	12
CD/DVD/GAME/COMPUTER SOFTWARE	28
FOOD	18
HOUSEHOLD	15
TRAVEL	12
SPORTS/ENTERTAINMENT TICKETS	10



Image executive Andy Amannich demonstrates face-matching system; first

various methods, a race is on among the leaders to win acceptance as de facto standards in the most valuable market niches. Any technology supported by the police to identify criminals, for instance, stands to earn a share of global biometrics revenue that some analysts put at \$4 billion within five years. And several Canadian companies are among the front-runners.

At the head of the pack is a small Vancouver firm with some big names in its boardroom behind it. Former RCMP commissioner Norman Fother and Reid Morden, an ex-director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, are advisors to Image Technologies Inc. in its development of face-recognition software. To experience it in work, you could drop in to any of Canada's 100,000+ B.C. locations and try to check in at one of its sites, retrieve a shelf of genealogical data. Display the guesses "told" by the biometry-based checks; accuracy will look fine, and operators in a dimly lit room off the casino floor will own a discreetly placed video camera on your face. Using complex calculations based on the relationship of features around the nose and eyes, Image's software will compare your face to those of more than 2,000 known or suspected criminals already on file, and report any match in under a second. "If you are going to compromise the integrity of the game," says general manager Massimo Wilberg, "we're going to catch you."

The software guarding these armed bandits is actually a spin-off from Image's primary market: law enforcement. RCMP detachments in North Vancouver and Surrey, B.C., were prototypes for a computerized and biometric system that replicates a version of what you see with a database of digital images. Given a new face, Image's software can find any matches in seconds.

In North Vancouver, it exposed one man who had previously been arrested three times under three different names. "It's pretty amazing," says detachment identification officer Sandy Ferns. "We have put in composite drawings and come up with a list of suspects." The company has since sold the system to police forces in Ontario, Alberta, California and Mexico's Chihuahua state.

Another Canadian company is betting on the biometrics of typing. Yokea-registered Net Nanny Software International Inc. (which markets out of Belleville, Wash., and does an R and D in Vancouver, mostly on leased facilities) has a program that works on office systems to provide security based on what the company says is its unique "scientific deconstruction" of people's typing. By analyzing the time between each keystroke and how long fingers dwell on each key, the software claims to be able to distinguish an impostor typing your name and password.

Toronto's Mytec Technologies Inc. is in a crowded field of companies promoting fingerprint sensors as the basis for se-

curity devices for everything from cellphones to handguns, including a prototype Smith and Wesson electronic "smart gun" that has gained wide acceptance. But president Pierre Dondoshean won an even bigger market among corporate, cellphone and luxury-car owners. "We're in the business of replacing passwords and any type of key," he says.

Being able to distinguish physical features, of course, is an old art. But computing power, and the ability to record minute physical details using non-invasive probes of their light, have truly increased the number of features to measure. Technologies based on physical patterns in the eye, face, finger and hand are well proven. New approaches go beyond looking at minute, static patterns in how people move, especially in repetitive tasks. Hollister LCI Technology Group NV claims to identify unique finger movements through a sensor-equipped ballpoint pen. A University of Maryland study pre-

**Fingerprints, facial features, even the way you walk, could soon help you catch a plane or prove who you are**

dicts police will soon be able to pick any individual out of a crowd by his or her stride. British researchers claim to have detected personal gait patterns distinctive enough to know when a thief is using your phone instead of you.

And air travel is set to get easier. Comparing faces. Uniqs and Air Canada are among players in talks with Canada Customs to expand the Carpass airport service as it moves east (the technology is also offered by U.S. immigration to pre-clear low-risk travelers at Canadian airports). In the grand vision, a single biometric-backed smart card (labeled the CentricCard by Uniqs) would be used for automated seat and luggage checks on airlines and inside the boarding or rental and hotels, as well as for clearing Canadian customs. But the expanding reach and improving precision of biometric leave some people queasy. Ontario provincial police and the province's customs raised controversy when they used face-recognition software to scan pictures of casino players through police magnifying (B.C.'s Gateway search only as soon disabled). Critics also blasted Tampa police for using similar software to scan the faces of fans at last January's Super Bowl game.

To get his Canada, Baglio willingly parted with his physical information. "I have no problem when the government wants it," he says. But, the biometrics skeptic, "I have a real problem when private industry would have your fingerprints. For banks to have them? I wouldn't give it to them." In fact, Dutch-owned ING Bank of Canada last year gave out more than 300 third-party-marketing biometric samples to its customers as a security measure. But officials say most are as long as a standardized in favor of conventional passwords. Biometrics may be fast establishing itself as a safe bet for cops and courts. Whether it will find ready acceptance among consumers is more of a wild card. ■

By Kimberley Noble

**B**ody scanners are familiar. Remember last week from a ski and snowboard show in Las Vegas, the vice-president of BCI Recognition Custom Inc. of Burnaby, B.C., entered the high-ceilinged atrium hall at Vancouver International Airport and moved away from the lines forming at a donor booth. Stepping to a kiosk similar to a bank machine, Baglio inserted a card. Following prompts on a screen, he placed his right hand in a recess and aligned his fingers against five small jigs. Touching the screen to indicate he had nothing to declare, he received a paper slip confirming his entry into Canada. In less than a minute, he was on his way. It was the kind of experience that has made Baglio a big fan of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency's pilot. Carpass custom and entry program for low-risk air travelers. "The biggest attraction is being able to get off the plane, put your card in and just go. It's great."

Canada Customs hopes to introduce a service similar to the Vancouver pilot project by year-end at seven more airports,

including Toronto's Pearson and Montreal's Dorval. The expanded service may soon travelers' eyes. Instead of their hands, to confirm their identity. But whatever body part it is, the technology is only the first step of a wave of new biometric devices designed to identify people by lines in their skin, the tone of their voice, the shape of their face—even the tempo of their typing. All use unique individual variations in physical features, or such recognizable behaviours as walking, talking and signing a name, to authenticate identity. Uses range from the humble—dialing away with the inconvenience of remembering multiple online passwords—to the controversial—such as facial scans of the Super Bowl crowd by police. Other applications may soon provide some Canadians with the ultimate personal ID for dealing with everything from government to vending machines.

Flourishing, computing costs and an explosive growth in digital transactions have fuelled the new push to bring biometrics to market. With as many as 100 companies pursuing

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## Tech Explorer

### The new face of Palm

The globe's dominant force in handheld computing has undergone a major redesign. Palm Inc. of Santa Clara, Calif., will introduce a new series of handhelds this week, unveiling the m500 with monochrome screen and the color m505. Unlike previous Palm, the m500 has a slot for inserting Secure Digital memory cards, which allow the use of a postage stamp. Over 100 companies, including IBM, Motorola and Nintendo, have formed an association to develop products with an SD link. With so many developers, says Michael Markowitz, head of Palm Canada Inc., "Palm users will be able to swap data, video and digital images between a wide variety of electronic devices faster and more easily." "This," says Markowitz, "is a very powerful."

Yet when the m500 becomes available in Canada in May at \$629, and the \$699 colour model arrives in June, chances are there will be only a few SD-enabled devices on the market. Analysts note there are a lot of competing systems. Nonetheless, however, experts tend to lean on a base of products this summer. Besides memory, the SD slot will accept accessories, such as a Bluetooth or for wireless connections, an Ethernet or



The m505 uses a memory card, enables

modem links, a digital camera or an MP3 player. Palm also redesigned the HotSync port to make data transfers with a computer up to three times faster. The new port will be standard in all future units.

Palm's new strategy borrows heavily from Microsoft. Since, Calif.-based HandSpring Inc., Palm's nearest competitor. HandSpring's Visor organizers are known for their Springboard slot, but the current design 10 times bigger than SD cards, so HandSpring units are bulkier. Even that, much slower



#### COOL SITE

#### Out of the cold

Scott Jaquith's *Web* was affectionately mocking Saskatchewan had its genesis in a film he made at the University of Regina. A spoof on tropical vacation getaways, it was set in Regina in the dead of winter. He says, [www.irelandia.com](http://www.irelandia.com), came on with his brand of provocatively exacting humor. Included are a lot of cold jokes, the Saskatchewan rant, and "You've lived in Saskatchewan too long when..." Example: "You think any winter longer is a flannel nightie and robe sock."

*A Visor Edge* are baffled. Even that, much slower, however, changed last week with the introduction of the Visor Edge, a slim, monochrome handheld resembling the top-selling Palm V. The Edge can still take Springboard modules, but requires an adapter. It also comes with Palm's operating system—but here Palm may have the edge. The new Visor cannot be upgraded to OS 4.0, which Palm will unveil this week. Palm's latest system has an onscreen dial pad in anticipation of wireless e-mail, and allows users to make handwritten notes.

Danylo Havelak

## People

Edited by Shonda Dean

### Rompin' keeps rockin'

Rockably legend Ronnie Hawkins recently recalled on old friends Robbie Robertson, Kim Carnes and David Foster, and new friends Tragically Hip and Wide Mouth Mason to join him on an upcoming album. The 66-year-old Arkansas native, who served in Canada 40 years ago, is known for using his back-up band, The Hawks, as a training ground for young musicians that is where members of The Band got their start. Now, Hawkins is considering a country-western tour with a new



He admits new push of Hawks for the road

pack of Hawks—and is whipping them into shape with concerts in Toronto, Thuzant, The Hawks—including his son, Robin, and daughter Leah—are all seasoned musicians who left their own bands to play with the backcountry. legend. Still, Hawkins will put them through what Robertson calls "Ronnie Hawkins' Boot Camp School of Music." "It ain't for sissies," says Hawkins. "But if you're working six days a week and practicing five, you're going to get good at your craft. If you ain't good enough in a couple of years, you better learn computers."

### Salacious southern scribe

Best-selling author E. Lynn Harris was a con- peater salesman for 15 years—but finally got need of love. "I had mostly white, all male customers and they wanted a good boy," says the charismatic bisexual Arkansas native. "I had to make up an extensive, talk about my girl-friend." After some therapy sessions to overcome depression, Harris decided he wanted to write "about the daily struggles of people who are both black and gay."

In 1992, Harris self-published his first book, *Respectable Life*. He would try to sell his books at beauty parades and from the back of his car at African-American used clothes and gay events. "The gay press didn't think a new guy enough," says the former newspaper author, "and the black publishers

### This Wheeler on fire

C-ITV Newsworld broadcaster Katie Wheeler would have been happy with a life behind the scenes. In 1984, Wheeler, now 39, was strangled in a Toronto mall by a stranger who was later deemed criminally insane. She suffered a permanent liver and stomach in a high and arm. Her story was made into a City TV five-part series, *The Katie Wheeler Story: Diary of a Victim*, which flagged flames in the justice system's treatment of victims of violence. "At that time, victims had to wait about three years for compensation," says Wheeler. "Now, people get up-front money for psychological help or plane surgery."

After the series, City TV offered Wheeler an on-air job—which she declined. After a few more offers, she gave in. In 1988, Wheeler moved to CFTO, where she has been an anchor for 11 years. Last month, she moved to CTV's national broadcast.

Wheeler, who lives just outside Toronto with her husband and two young daughters, refers to the stabbing as "old news." Still, the experience is "impact." "Every day, my father living. I have a few bad days, but it hasn't been a whole new career for me—one I completely adore."



Wheeler's violent attack led to TV career



Harris struggles of people both black and gay

wouldn't touch it." Eventually, Harris got a lucrative publishing deal but lost an books, which often have a salacious edge, have sold close to two million copies, appealing to black and white, gay and straight audiences. His latest, *After Day-Gay*, will be released in paperback in June. A new novel, *Any Way the Wind Blows*, a due in July.

Harris, who lives in Chicago with his male partner of seven years, is now a bona fide celebrity in the African-American community, and recently was a presenter at the NAACP Image Awards. But he vividly remembers earlier years. "Now, there are crowds and people waiting in lines to see me," he says. "But at the beginning, I'd be there for hours and no one would come up. People would ask me what the book was about, I'd tell them, and they would walk away I cringe at the memory."

## Transplant triumph

**I**n a breakthrough that overturns accepted medical thinking, Toronto doctors have demonstrated that babies with defective hearts can be given transplants from donors who have different blood groups. The discovery by doctors at Toronto Hospital for Sick Children



*Sofia Delgadillo with her mother, Ana. Sofia, four-year-old, had a successful second blood-type transplant.*

means that physicians will now be able to use the first donor heart available, rather than waiting for one with the right blood type. Until now, experts believed that an infant given a heart from a donor with a different blood group would react as adults do in that situation—and experience fatal rejection of

the new organ. Doctors speculated that babies' immature immune systems cannot do that. Reporting in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, the Toronto team said that although two babies given the new type of transplant died as a result of organ rejection, the difference in blood type was not a factor.

## Price of caution

**H**ealth authorities in Hamilton say they do not expect to recoup the \$60,000 cost of successfully treating a Congolese woman they had suspected last month of being infected with the feared Ebola virus. Collette Mathison-Smith, visiting Canada on a business trip, set off an international alarm when she was admitted to a Hamilton hospital on Feb. 4. She showed symptoms resembling those of Ebola, a hemorrhagic virus that has killed hundreds in Congo and neighboring African countries.

Tests ruled out Ebola but did not identify the mysterious ailment that almost killed Mathison-Smith and kept her in the hospital, with no health insurance, for 27 days.



*Vaccinating students: fears of a comeback*

case in the Edmonton area since an outbreak that has killed three people began in December, 1999. In Calgary, an eight-year-old boy became that city's seventh case since Christmas. In another outbreak that has affected 28 Quebecers since Jan. 1, a three-year-old girl was in critical condition in Quebec City. A vaccination program is already under way in

## A tale of two provinces

**M**eningitis outbreaks strack newswires in Alberta and Quebec, raising concerns that the potentially deadly disease may be making a comeback after declining steadily during the 1990s. In Edmonton, a 34-year-old woman was in critical condition in hospital with meningitis—the first

both Calgary and Edmonton. In Ottawa, Health Canada officials said that if outbreaks of the disease continued, more vaccination programs might be considered to protect schoolchildren and young adults, the groups most vulnerable to the current strain of the meningitis bacterium.

## Agonizing choices over palliative care

**P**alliative care services for Canadians who die in pain are inadequate, according to an expert who warns that if improved services are not provided for Canada's growing elderly population, euthanasia and assisted suicide will be seen as compassionate alternatives. Dr. Balfour Mount, director of palliative care at Montreal's Royal Victoria Hospital, cited estimates that sophisticated, multidisciplinary palliative services are available for only five percent of Canadians who need them. Writing in *Annals*, the journal of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, Mount compared Canada, where euthanasia and assisted suicide are outlawed, and the Netherlands, where legislation last year took steps towards formally legalizing the practices. He called on Ottawa to develop a national strategy on palliative care, or face growing pressures "to follow Holland's course."



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Tragically Hip's front man makes a quiet debut with a rural feel

## Gord goes it alone

By Nicholas Jennings

**Gordon Downie** inhabits an enviable place in Canadian culture. At concerts, thousands of fans chant his lyrics as if they were mantras. They hang on his every move with the rapt intensity of a church congregation. Yet the Tragically Hip's charismatic front man has never seemed altogether comfortable in the role of starman. His first allegiance has always been to the band and the friends with whom he formed the group more than 15 years ago in Kingston, Ont. Now, with *Coke Machine Glow*, 38-year-old Downie is stepping out on his own with a poetry book and his first solo album. Released jointly by Universal Music Canada and Vintage Canada (they will be sold in a single package for the first two weeks, at \$29.95), the CD and poetry collection finally establish Downie as a singer-songwriter in the literary tradition of Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen.

Significantly, Downie is the only Hip member not based in Kingston, having moved 10 years ago to Toronto, where



*Downie, cynical, whimsical, tender and world-weary*

he lives with his wife and three children. It was there in a small, now-defunct studio that he recorded *Coke Machine Glow* with a cross-section of the city's music community, including members of such popular bands as Barenaked Ladies, Cowboy Junkies, Rheostatics and Skydiggers. In a surprise move, he also collaborated with filmmaker Anna Eggman on two tracks. Produced with the Skydiggers' Josh Finkelman and Steven Dozko, best known as a member of the Odds, the result is a collection of 16 songs that bear little resemblance to either tone or style to Downie's work with the Hip. Quicker and clearer vocally, they run the gamut from folk and country-rock to light, jazz-tinged tunes and direct experimental pieces. Downie's perspective is by nature whet-

ter, cynical, tender and world-weary. Although recorded in an urban setting, much of *Coke Machine Glow* has a rustic, rural feel, especially on tracks that feature accordionist Juro Carwiner, a Jorlocke ironman and engineer Jose Coenraets of the band By Divine Right. Two of the album's best songs, *The Never-Ending Presence* and the dream-like *Lafayette*, hint at the gentle country-rock reveries of The Band, while the giddy, bang-fueled *We Promised* playfully suggests the Beatles' *Don't Let Me Be This Way*. Even a rugged grunge-rock number like *Canada Goes* humorously compares middle-aged men "completing the finishing touches on a dope deal" to a flock of birds meeting in a cornfield. However, Downie's affinity for country sounds backfires on the mandolin-drenched *Elaborate* (Track 12), a slow-as-molasses dirge that goes nowhere.

Two of the album's most striking songs are a study in contrast. Co-written with Eggman, who plays an irritatingly repetitious classical guitar, *Nothing but Horrors* in *Your Social Life* finds Downie becoming the world with its evocative and gut-down—like an abuse-influenced person. "When are you thinking of disappearing?" he sings with palpable rage. "When are you falling off the map?" *Back Rider*, meanwhile, is a simple yet gorgeous, lullaby reminiscent of John Lennon's *Beautiful Boy*, in which Downie coos to his child, "I'll be your friend, your last refuge, when things get weird."

At least one track will strike a resonant chord with Hipheads who delight in Downie's flipside worship and tangential excursions. *Chloroform*, featuring a flowery but never florid piano solo by the Ladies' Kevin Hearn, is essentially a love song. But it contains the sort of stream-of-consciousness lyrics that Downie often injected into songs—sometimes spontaneously—on recent Hip tours. "*Gone down and under now!*" the shiver of *eyes on Me!*/*nothing around us on the night!* *nothing around us on the night!* *nothing around us on the night!*" he sings. "*Children smoking! cigarettes on me!*/*just a few things more whispers don't lie!*" Clearly, the Hip alone can no longer contain Downie's simple poetic musings. With *Coke Machine Glow*, one of Canada's rock's most fertile imaginations has found a fine second home. **B**

John Brannan

## This Coke ain't the real thing

Writing poetry is a different business from composing the lyrics to a song. Songwriters get to ride on the wings of melody, but the language of a good poem must arise in its own music. In other words, poetry-making is the more complex and demanding art. And judging by the contents of Gordon Downie's first book of poems, *Coke Machine Glow* (Vintage Canada, \$16.95), the Tragically Hip lead singer is still struggling to master it.

It's interesting that among the poets who have also been songwriters, the most successful—like Leonard Cohen—have

been established poets first. Artists such as Joni Morrison and Joni Mitchell who set to bridge the two disciplines from the other direction usually have more trouble. Their poetry tends to read too much like song lyrics, effective when fused with music, but too often vague and rhetorically vague when simply printed on the page. Downie's poetry shares both faults. Influenced heavily by the changing rhythms and themes of rap, he often offers lines that sound good but don't hold up to scrutiny. In *Telephone Hill* he writes of children who were "like-minded going to sleep on a telephone spinning, revo-

lutioned through our wooden misters."

Then later, he goes on to confound the more you study it. Exactly what rhythm is being chafed out? And just what is whispering conveyed through a soggy martini?

At first, his music lyrics, Downie can mint some wonderful images. Describing a church service as the poem *Sinner*, he refers to "dozens full of dimes" and has on-the-road poems bring a daily amusing perspective to this experience of travel. But for too much of this book is written in an in-between language, lost between the drab of gaudiness and the deeper, more evocative speech of true poetry.

## DR. VANSTONE'S RESEARCH PROVES THAT SOMETIMES THE ROUNDABOUT WAY IS BETTER THAN THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW.

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Canada



Films  
Brian D. Johnson

# Oscar and the Art of War

As the gladiator games begin, Ed Harris shines in *Pollock* and *Enemy at the Gates*

Imagine you're Steve Martin. You have been quietly collecting modern art, you've written a well-received novel and a hit play, and you amuse yourself by getting droll, absurdist squibs for *The New Yorker*. You've come a long way from the guy who stood onstage with an arrow through his head. But now they want you to host the Oscars, the most vulgar spectacle on earth.

Well, how bad could it be? Just look at the monologue material—movies about swordplay, drug abuse, chocolate sex, politically correct divorce and applied coarseness. The mind reels with possibilities for the big production number. How about a gladiator issue of *Leaning Tower of Piza* with plunging breasts? Or a squad of Jackson Pollock drenching the dance floor with chocolate-filled rain? Or Martin could deliver a Nordic love soliloquy to Wilson, the *Gar Andy* volleyball.

At this year's Oscars, at least there is a clear contest. The main event promises to be a WWF showdown between East and West—the high-flying femininity of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* versus the Super

Bowl brutality of *Gladiator*. And if *Crouching Tiger* wins, history will be made: during the 73-year history of the Academy Awards, best picture has never gone to a foreign-language film.

Most of the nominated films are tales of outsiders and underdogs. In *Gladiator*, a betrayed general fights his way out of slavery to avenge his slaughtered kin. In *Tuffly*, everyone is reduced to a foot soldier in the drug war. A white-male Cinderella tears a strip off the American dream in *Boys n the Barbershop*, while making its awards. In *Crash* and *The Cider House*, Jennifer Bionche and Joan Allen become gages of witch-hunts. And in *Reverie Night*, *Full*, *Quill* and *Pollock*,



Lost: his performance is a feat of charismatic modesty

Jason Butler, Geoffrey Rush and Ed Harris portray self-amplifying artists.

It's not a side eye for predictions. But count on Julia Roberts, Hollywood's purest queen, to go to pieces as she's crowned best screen for *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. Bob Dylan to give the night's strangest non-acceptance speech if *Things Have Changed* from *Wonder Boys* wins best song. Watch Steven Seidenberg usually lose his double nomination for directing *Brooklyn* and *Tuffly*, while Amy Lee wins for *Crouching Tiger*. Benicio Del Toro (*Tuffly*) gets supporting actor. Supporting actress is anyone's guess—ruse is arguable. Kate Winslet (*Unleashed*)

Best actor comes down to a duel between *Get Out* Tom Hanks and *Gladiator* Russell Crowe. Hanks is the sentimental favorite. There's no way the conservative academy will salute Butler for playing a gay Cuban writer who uncovers a novel out of prison via mail, or Rush for scribbling on prison walls with excrement as the Marquis de Sade—or even



Harris: an art star with a pre-Warhol innocence who never figures out how to frame his ego

Harris shows up again in *Enemy at the Gates*, as a Nazi missioner assigned to kill a celebrated Russian sniper during the decisive siege of Stalingrad in 1942. This is a grand war epic on a scale not seen since *Saving Private Ryan*. In fact, the carnage of the opening scene, which shows hundreds of fresh Soviet recruits being sent to slaughter in a suicidal charge, is highly reminiscent of *Private Ryan's* bloodbath on the beach—but in this case, those who die to retreat are cut down by their own officers.

Directed by French filmmaker Jean-Jacques Annaud (*The Bear, The Lover, Enemy at the Gates*) combines spectacular battle scenes with intimate melodrama. Based on a real-life legend, the story concerns a Russian farm boy, Vasily Zaitsev (Jude Law), who becomes a famous sharpshooter, and whose exploits send a morale-boosting storm of adrenaline through the demoralized Soviet ranks. Vasily is discovered by a Soviet propagandist, Denisov (Joseph Fiennes), who turns him into a pulp-fiction folk hero, a kind of Bolshevik Billy the Kid. That prompts the Nazis to dispatch their best sniper, Major König (Harris), to hunt him down. And as if all that weren't enough, there's also a second love triangle, as Vasily and Denisov both fall for Tania (Rachel Weisz), a female soldier.

The movie is milled with false notes: the front-line warfare is hard to buy; Fiennes plays a Stalinist caricature; Bob Hanks overplays Khruščev as a Cocker Spaniel; perhaps, the final scenes are stretched in time, then blurred by a happy ending that was nixed on after the screenings. But the basic language of cinema talking back, other in the name of Stalingrad—a riveting, Annaud magnifies suspense by theorizing with microscopic cinema. And in Law, Harris and Weisz, he has three actors who thrive in the crucible of an extreme close-up. Law is superb. After dominating the screen in *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and *Gladiator*, he gets to show his muscle as a romantic hero. And with the script dishing whining over his head, his performance is a feat of charismatic modesty, swelling much of the war's mind-race at this year's Oscars. ■

Harris for splashing paint on canvas as Jackson Pollock.

But among a field of acting ornaments who appear to be trying to outdo one another with sheer physical activity, Harris' performance stands out. Like Joan Allen, he is one of Hollywood's chemically undernourished talents, more actor than star. And, as usual, he's better than the movie that surrounds him.

*Pollock* is the tale of a 30-year labour of love by Harris, who also directed it—and learned to paint for the role. It always a lock to watch people paint on screen, but usually the camera keeps cutting away to the hand of a professional artist. In *Pollock*, Harris performs his own scenes, executing bold brush strokes and dripping elaborate arcs of color across the canvas. That, of course, may only reinforce the argument that Pollock's splatter technique was child's play. Yet Harris displays enough control and focus to make it seem artistically cogent.

Marcia Gay Harden (journalist far left) supporting actress brings remarkable aplomb to her role as Pollock's wife, Lee Krasner, who abandons her own painting to nurture his career. The painter's friends, however, are more

desires. The most sharply drawn is the impetuous curator Peggy Guggenheim, portrayed by Harris' wife, Amy Madigan. Jeffrey Tambor (*The Larry Sanders Show*) plays Clement Greenberg, purveyor art critic. A grinning Val Kilmer looks weirdly out of place as painter Willem de Kooning. And Jennifer Connelly just hovers through as Ruth Cligman, Pollock's mistress.

Considering that Pollock was such an experimental painter, the movie follows a rather cautious formula. Even the music mimics of inspiration, when Pollock notices the pattern made by paint dripping from his brush to the floor, seems calculated. And the movie's terrified genius drinks himself to an early grave—how inherent limitations Pollock is a portrait that paints itself into a corner. Still, it's utterly absorbing. The stylistic dedication that Harris brings to the role resonates with the painter's own obsession. And Pollock's awkward embrace of celebrity—as he is interviewed by *Life* magazine or painting on command for a documentary—is touching. It suggests an art star with a pre-Warhol innocence who never figures out how to frame his ego.

# Dialogue with a desperado

By John Benrose

In the boardroom of his Toronto publisher, novelist Peter Carey is wondering out loud where he might pose for a photograph. "We could trash the lobby and do it there," he jokes, intimating, that as the author of a best-selling novel about the Australian bandit and hell-raiser Ned Kelly, he'd look appropriately rough sitting among the ruins of expensive leather armchairs. The moment seems quincecentennially Australian. First there's Carey's accent, which, despite his 11 years of living in New York City, still makes "trash" sound like "trush." And then there's the Aussie macho thing, whereby a direct and tough-beave masculinity—with its intimations of physical prowess and even fighting ability—is de rigueur. Carey slopes off to the lobby, but the sound of breaking furniture is not heard. A few minutes later, the 58-year-old author returns to the Random House boardroom and folds his legs, bearded frame into a comfortable chair. "That wasn't so bad," he drawls, as if he'd just had a make-over.

Propped up on the large table before him, like a little billboard for itself, is a copy of *True History of the Kelly Gang* (\$34.95). Carey's seventh novel has quickly become one of the hits of the international publishing season, piling up admiring reviews and big sales across the English-speaking world. Literary success isn't new to Carey: he took Britain's esteemed Booker Prize for his 1988 novel *Oncer and Future*, and has since won wide acclaim for novels including *The Unusual Life of Tristan Smith* (1994) and *Jack Maggs* (1998).



Carey: 'People who call him a horse thief and a murderer are in the minority'

But he seems particularly proud of *True History*, which, in celebrating one of Australia's greatest folk heroes, goes to the root of Carey's own feelings about his country.

It might seem odd to Canadian—who, after all, have made a national icon

like to identify with their more colourful desperados. "Kelly's far more to us than a Jesse James," Carey argues. "He's more like our Thomas Jefferson."

The comparison might seem far-fetched, but it becomes comprehensible upon reading the novel. Carey has shaped a Ned Kelly whose outlaw singleness is enabled by his sense of the historical injustice that poor Australians (especially those of Irish background, like himself) have suffered at the hands of the rich. The author is sensitive to any suggestion he has glorified Kelly (who did, after all, kill three policemen). Carey takes great pains to point out that there is good historical evidence to back his vision of a courageous Robin Hood-like figure who generally left the impoverished and innocent alone while proving a thorn in the side of the police and ruling class. To this day, Carey claims, Australians' attitudes to Kelly split along class lines. "I would think that the people who call him simply a horse thief and a murderer are in

**Novelist Peter Carey captures Aussie outlaw Ned Kelly**



of the red-coated Mousie—that Carey insists on putting the outlaw Kelly on a higher pedestal than even Australia's celebrated seafarers and police officers. He goes so far as to maintain that Ned Kelly's short, violent career 120 years ago in the hills northwest of Melbourne is critical to the self-image of Australians, many of whom can trace their ancestry to convict ships and

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## Books

an absolute minority," he says. "By and large, they're the grand types who cut what the British think about them—the swag man who won't have *Wandering Mattie* in their natural song."

Carey can get very passionate about William Maclellan, the hunting ballad about the sheep thief—the "swag man"—who commits suicide rather than go to jail. "This song is who we are," Carey murmurs. "In a fancy way, it's our *Song of Liberty*. When we sing it, we unconsciously inhibit the position of the swag man. We are the poor and dispossessed."

Like Kelly, Carey is himself of Irish background, though by the time he was growing up in the small town of Boucha Marsh outside of Melbourne, the Irishness of his family had been diluted to the occasional singing of ceremonial ballads such as *Ten Shilling O'Sullivan*. And though the legend of Ned Kelly was in the air, Carey played cowboy and Indians, just like kids in the spell of Hollywood movies everywhere. But the son of a car dealer was already soaking up the influences that would one day flower in *True History*. One was the peculiar rural rural Australian used to go to the English language. "I came into the room and there he was," Carey says, tossing out the sort of sentence he heard from some of his playmates.

Later, as a neophyte writer in his late teens, Carey ran into the same colorful style of speech in a famous creative writing by Ned Kelly. Known as the *Jerrilder Letter*, after the remote town where Kelly composed it a year before his hanging in 1880, it is an eloquent attempt by the outlaw to justify his career. "I found this amazing, beautiful, Irish language," Carey recalls, "and I was so excited by it I typed out all 8,000 words and carried it around with me for years." Most astonishingly for Carey, the language of the *Jerrilder Letter* turned out to be some of the experiments with colloquial speech conducted by the natives he was then reading, including Joyce, Bodley and Faulkner.

But it would be another several decades before those various influences would fuse in *True History*'s core-



Kelly: an outlaw whose vagabondism is recalled by his sense of historical injustice

pellently original poetry with its bling, run-together sentences. Carey had other books to write while supporting himself by a career in advertising, but would eventually become a poet in his own firm. Eleven years ago, he moved to New York with his wife, the art director Alison Saunders, to take up a job teaching literature at New York University. The couple settled in Green-

wich Village, where they live with their two sons, Seth, 14, and Charlie, 10. And it was in New York, in the late-1990s, that Carey first thought of writing a novel about Ned Kelly. The catalyst was a Metropolitan Museum exhibit of paintings by the noted Australian artist Sidney Nolan. Carey had been much taken by these evocations of the Kelly legend when he'd seen them back in Australia. About to see them again in New York, he wondered seriously if they'd stand up in their new cultural context. But the paintings didn't

disappoint. "They looked fantastic," he recalls. "In a way where the art world is so full of theory and bullsh\*t and stress, these paintings looked like things that just had to be made." Carey began proudly introducing his downtown friends to the Mel show, and while he was exploring the story of Ned Kelly to death, he realized he had stumbled on the subject of his next book. *True History of the Kelly Gang* is the story of a young man who is drawn ever deeper into a life of violence, often against his own will. Carey has done a tremendous job of showing how Kelly's inherent decency and breathtaking courage are not enough to protect him from his tragic fate—which comes around him when he and his gang are opposed by a large government force. The novel also memorably evokes the Australian landscape, with its strange flora and fauna. As for one in the course of writing *True History*, Carey returned to the hill country north of Melbourne to make sure he had it right. On his last trip, he even lugged around an oversized copy of his typescript with him of what space, so he could make corrections about such critical issues as horses and trees.

**'Kelly's far more to us than a Jesse James. He's more like our Thomas Jefferson.'**

Carey admits his journey here, and feels he will never be able to write with deep conviction about any place but Australia. "As one of my students says, 'When you change countries you lose your peripheral vision.'" And while he loves New York, there may be something about the American obsession with winning and winning that does not quite appeal to the young man's peripheral side of him. "We like the dollars," Carey says of his fellow Australians, and he is not being critical. "We like the folks, the failures, the losers. These are the things that tell us who we really are."

Edited by Susan Ols

## When the moon hits your eye . . .

A cute crowd-pleaser from A.D. 1969, *The Dish* is about a group of eccentric scientists who stumble into the eye of history. Missing a huge satellite dish on an Australian sheep farm, they've been assigned to intercept images of man's first steps on the moon in 1969. But as the big moment approaches, a series of mishaps threatens to block out the signal. Based on a true story, this quirky comedy of errors rips into nostalgia for the glory days of the Space Age. And like the more serious *Thirteen Days*, the recent movie about the Cuban Missile Crisis, it's about the infancy of Broadcast Television.

*The Dish* has a natural hook—the tension between a local team of geek scientists, led by Cliff Huxton (Sam Neill), and a starchy NASA official visiting



Some from *The Dish*'s eccentric scientists

from America (Patrick Warburton). There's a well-timed major planning pageant around the moon-walk broadcast, and *The Dish* has relentless charm. But director Rob Sitch (*The Castle*) and his team of TV comedy writers often weaken the story into sitcom absurdity—which only leaves us dying to know what really happened.

Rein D. Johnson

## 'Beloved world'

*Planet Earth* by Vincent P.K. Page was recently chosen by the United Nations as the official poem for its program Dialogue Among Civilizations. The work will be read at various events later this month, including a literary conference to be held on March 29 at the UN building in New York City, as well as at such international sites as a peak of Mount Everest and a research station in Antarctica. An excerpt:



Page: international dialogue

*It has to be loved the way a  
loveseat loves her lovers,  
the way the moon has hands  
covering the four moons  
knowing their soap and soap  
like a heart clearing, or a mother  
praying.  
It has to be loved as if it were  
embroidered  
with flowers and beads and two  
joined hearts upon it.  
It has to be cherished and cradled.  
It has to be celebrated.  
Of this great beloved world and all  
the creatures in it.  
It has to be spread out, the skin of  
this planet.*

Conary The Paragon Quill

## ATHLETES AND ANGELS

Fortcoming movies available on video and DVD

### Remember the Titans (March 20)

A drama based on the true story of a black football coach (Denzel Washington) who, in 1971, successfully leads a racially integrated but polarized high school team to victory in Alexandria, Va.

### Charlie's Angels (March 27)

A girl-power flick based on the 1970s TV series. By sex, hand and sex, a glitzy trio of private eyes—played by Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore and Lucy Liu—search for a kidnapped computer ace. **The Legend of Rugged Vance** (April 20) Robin Hood meets Will Smith, who stars as a gold-caddy-dwelling as a life coach to a disillusioned war veteran (Ward Darnell) in Depression-era Ohio.

## Sneaky software

A group of University of Toronto students reacted quickly when Napster announced it would put them on its list to stop people from using copyright-protected music. Within four days, five students from the university-affiliated new-media company Pulse-



NewMedia.com had successfully developed a software program to crack Napster filters by changing the name of music files to .jpg files. In the first six days after its March 9 launch, their Napstercrack software had 175,000 downloads. At least one other company, Troy, N.Y.-based Aesara, had developed a similar software, but shut down at Napster's request. James Chel-

son, CEO of PulseNewMedia.com, says he hasn't been approached by Napster, probably because the United States has more copyright legislation. A third, new version of Napstercrack encrypts file names into gibberish to further elude SLX. For an encore, the company plans to indirectly remove 100 Napster files with glib names. Looking for Drizzy Speed? Try searching under "Influible 2001."

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### Entertainment Notes

## Blossoms of Bhutan

**A**ndrew Katz Hellman has worked as a forestry consultant around the world. Professor emeritus at the University of Alberta in Edmonton (he taught agriculture there from 1976 to 1988), he is also an internationally renowned ecologist, and a man with a conspicuous streak. His book *A Hunter's Year in the Forest of Abolton* (The University of Alberta Press) combines ecological



dam—and on the irreversibility of nature. Norwegian-born Hellum went to Bhutan in 1988 as a forestry consultant, and during his two years there fell in love with the country's flora and its people. Since his return to Canada, he writes, "I hang suspended, yet I feel very fortunate, and I listen more now to the winds and the rain."

### Best-Sellers

## Festoon

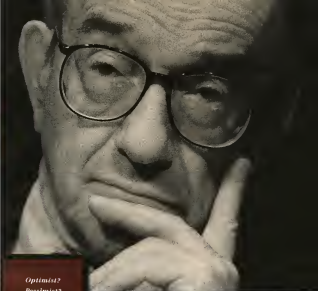
4. A HINTER-THOUGHT, *Am. Spectator* (2)
5. THE WINTERFEST MAGAZINE, *Am. Rev.* (2)
6. THE CHRISTIAN BARONET, *Am. Rev.* (2)
7. A SABBATH MORE THAN NIGHT  
*McClure's* (2)
8. THE GATHERING STORM OF '94, *N. Am. Rev.* (2)
9. THE GALT EMPLOYERS, *Am. Rev.* (2)
10. WINTER'S HEART, *Am. Rev.* (2)
11. CAPT. BRUCE BIRD, *Am. Rev.* (2)
12. THE HENRIETTA MYSTERY, *Am. Rev.* (2)
13. THE HISTORY OF THE BULL BIRD,  
*Am. Rev.* (2)

### Notation

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| 1. <b>HOW AND THE WILDOGS</b> (Coke Black) (2)                       | 100% |
| 2. <b>THE DOD PULLED (Coke) HEAR OVERHEARD:</b><br>MILTON THOMAS (4) | 100% |
| 3. <b>LONDON: THE WARRIORS</b> (Pete Adams) (2)                      | 100% |
| 4. <b>PRIDE TO THE MOUNTAIN</b> (Mick Smith) (2)                     | 100% |
| 5. <b>SAME SILENT</b> (Coke Smith) (4)                               | 100% |
| 6. <b>SECRETS OF THE BARRY WHIMPER</b><br>Tony (Coke) (2)            | 100% |
| 7. <b>THE FLOOD-NATION</b> (Mick Smith) (2)                          | 100% |
| 8. <b>ELIZABETH</b> (Coke Smith) (2)                                 | 100% |
| 9. <b>NOVELS</b> (Coke Smith) (2)                                    | 100% |

TABLE 10.10

Compiled by Steven Berkman



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# The wisdom of little Ralph

So, you see, with Ralph Klein's crushing victory in Alberta—62 per cent of the popular vote, which is more than Chrétien or Mike Harris ever got—there's all the talk of him being the guy who can Unleash the Right. What with Jeanine Chisum and the ever-finding Win-win Day. Seemed with Carleton Klein has said many times that Ralph can go to Ottawa if he likes. And after that, he will go alone. "In that right, sir?" He chuckles on a swirl of air, and answers an aide to bring in some wine. "We're in a hotel room in a small Alberta town. 'Yes, thank you'."

What is your opinion of Stéphane Duro? He is not on my Christmas card list. "What is your opinion of Bernard Landry?" "If I've ever met him, I don't remember ever meeting him. Others." By the way, he points out, "you've pointed out many times that I am the 'valued' premier. I'm working on my degree so you can't say that anymore. I'm in my third year now, enrolled in a bachelor's degree in applied communications." (Klein, before becoming mayor of Calgary, was a radio reporter.) "So I perhaps can get a real job after I'm finished. I'm going to school as we speak. In fact, this election is one of my work-experience courses."

Have you ever, concern played learning French? "Concerned?" Yes, I actually took lessons. "Why?" "Well, I just thought it was the right thing to do. When I was mayor I had a man who would come in and spend an hour with me. But a year didn't pass out. It's a lot more than learning the words, the language. You have to be able to think it."

And Jean Chrétien? "On a personal basis, I quite like him. As a matter of fact, let you in on a little secret. If Chrétien, my back when, had he been the leader, I might not be where I am today." What's that mean? "It might have been a Chretien supporter, and maybe have been in his government to-day. That's why I'm back, then, when he was minister of energy, he was well liked out here. Nevertheless, the National Energy Program, people out here wanted to his personality."

Chrétien's always claimed he's got something like 47 sisters in Alberta. "Sure, that's right. Up in St. Paul." He sort of solved the problem, the expansion of Marie Leduc and Pierre Trudeau? "That's right. He did. I've had the opportu-

nity of meeting with him on Team Canada missions. Meeting him at 24 Sussex Drive. He's a delightful man. Great guy, really."

"It was interesting watching Chrétien and Bouchard together. We were on a bus together one time, coming back from a ceremony in Yokohama in Tokyo. They started talking about their old political allies, and Ken. Very interesting conversation."

What wisdom do you have for the back page? "I don't know whether it's wisdom, but this province has a reputation for electing governments that people can trust. I think this province is unique in that. People feel comfortable."

Yes, you go 30 years or so for Social Credit, then 30 years for the Conservatives—all these Alberta-style elections. "I don't think it's Alberta-style. People just get out and vote. You can say all you want, Allan, you can have all the sinners in the world, and all the great theories. Just ask Bob Rae. A tremendously intellectual individual. The sinner to politics a people and creating a comfort level. Do people feel comfortable with you?"

"Yes, you can be a political figure, and still be a tremendous success. Look at Mulroney. Basically that party was dragged down in—what? Two seats. And he ends up on his... And here's me, I have to go back to university and earn a degree just to earn a job when I get out of politics."

Are you going to run for a fourth term? Your wife runs you, as we all know. "It's a good province, you know? You wonder if you're living in the same bloody provinces as these other people. As I say, a chunk of the life is falling every single day. It's a wonder there's anything left of this sky now."

And here's Ralphie, the Grade 10 dropout, winning in oil and gas revenues that allow his province to be the only one without a sales tax and with a provincial debt due to be wiped out completely. The premier of British Columbia is about to be obliterated, no one has ever heard of the premier of Saskatchewan and the premier of Quebec is being overruled on his own tongue. The never-ending day in Alberta is shining down on the podosity of little Ralph.



Photo: [illegible]

## LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE

### Beneficiary Calculation (cont'd)

... amount stated in the "Schedule of Allowance". The first consideration should always be the family and what financial position the policy holder plans to leave them in. In order to accomplish such coverage goals, the greatest principle must first be that of the low-income family currently provide for his/her family and low insurance coverage may be required to such extent as possible.

It is of primary importance that the policy holder in making a purchase of a policy that his/her beneficiaries can live with when the current income stream is replaced following his/her death. Initial considerations involve an in-depth and serious assessment of all the potential policy holder's current fixed expenses, reduced for inflation, while also considering their in context of future expenses.

### Fixed Expenses

Fixed expenses refer to those expenses required to provide a permanent, comfortable lifestyle for the potential policy holder and his/her family. Such expenses include but are not limited to:

- necessities for the potential policy holder's family (food, clothing, education, entertainment, etc.);
- payments for the mortgage or loans of the potential policy holder (including mortgage, children, taxes and maintenance);
- necessities for the potential policy holder's family (food, clothing, education, entertainment, etc.).

In order for the policy holder to provide the same or a better standard of living for his/her family after his/her death, his/her will require an accurately calculated policy. Through such periodic payments into a life insurance policy, the policy holder can be sure that his/her family will not be left with insufficient funds or funds to maintain after the death of the policy holder.

Additionally, the policy holder can hold equity in the life insurance plan such that, before his/her death, his/her will require a loan against the plan. Such loans may include mortgage to the policy holder's mortgage, an automobile, etc. However, a policy should be required with concern for the reduced value of the policy benefit loans taken against it.

The premium the policy holder can afford will determine the total amount of the policy. The total amount of the life insurance policy should be sufficient to provide for the policy holder's family while the premium should be considerably less than that of a mortgage.

### Mortgage

If an emergency occurs the policy holder's death, payment of your mortgage will be made immediately regardless of the balance of the "loan" mortgage.

### Family Transportation

When an injury which does not cause the policy holder's loss of life results in the company making



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